

VOL. 5 NO. 8 HARTFORD, CT AUGUST 2004

Securing the railways

'Connecticut cannot, will not, let our guard down'

M. Jodi Rell, Governor

SGT. PATRICK CLARK SPEC. JESSE J. STANLEY 65TH PCH

For the first time since its creation, both components of the National Guard Quick Reaction Force (QRF) have been activated to support Connecticut State Law Enforcement. Following credible information on possible terrorist attacks on specific targets and the rise of threat levels in those specific areas (the first area-specific rise in these levels since 9/11), the QRF will provide support to New York City by increasing security in railway transportation to and from New York City.

The 134th Military Police Company and the 103rd Security Forces Squadron comprise the QRF and will support Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), AMTRAK, Transportation Security Association (TSA), New Haven, Stamford and Connecticut State Police Officers in providing security at both the New Haven and the Stamford train stations. The QRF will patrol and support law enforcement officials in activities within the stations and on the train platforms. The law enforcement officials will provide the actual security on the trains that travel from New Haven to Union Station in New York City and back.

"We've been providing security on these trains since 9/11," said Sgt. Frank Sawicki, Detail Coordinator, Connecticut State Police. "But having the National Guard assisting us in this operation provides us with a valuable resource for us to have and use, especially since they bring experience and professionalism that will make this partnership successful."

The main responsibility of the QRF is to provide security to the parking lots, platforms the stations and the areas that surround each station in shifts. They accomplish this with armed security patrols throughout these designated areas. Any suspicious activities or incidents are then reported to the local police element, who will then handle the situation accordingly.

"The increased presence in security by



Pvt. 2 Courtney Robbins stands guard inside the New Haven Train Station. (Photo by Sgt. Patrick Clark, 65th PCH)

both law enforcement and the National Guard is welcomed," said Michael Donnarumma, Transportation Supervising Rail Officer for the Connecticut Department of Transportation. "It gives our commuters a sense of safety in light of the increase of threat level."

Many QRF Soldiers have just completed active duty status in support of Operation Nobel Eagle in West Point, NY.

"These Soldiers performed very similar tasks during Nobel Eagle," said Lt. Corey Holmes, Officer in Charge (OIC) of the QRF. "We have experienced and motivated Soldiers who know what is expected of them and what needs to be done to keep civilians safe."

Each Soldier has some form of active duty

training or experience. Along with those who supported Operation Nobel Eagle, others have just come back from Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Some Soldiers have just completed Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training and have the proper training fresh in their minds according to Holmes.

With the experience that the QRF brings, the civilian police forces did not have to teach or supervise the Soldiers. This allows the police forces to concentrate more on security on the trains and worry less about what was occurring at the stations.

"Working with the State Police has been a smooth transition," said Tech. Sgt. Henry Smalls of the 103rd Security Forces Squadron. "We look out for each other and they have

been very supportive of us helping them out."

The operation has also allowed the opportunity for both the Army and Air National Guard components of the QRF the chance to work side-by-side and learn from each other. The transition from separate security forces into one will continue to be a success as long as each component adapts to each other and their mission.

"It has not been difficult working with the Army," Smalls said. "It has become a lot more common place to work together, especially with the QRF and Grecian Firebolt. They are learning, we are learning, it is getting better the more we work together."

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Up Front with the Adjutant General

Connecticut National Guard Family Day Homecoming Celebration September 11, 2004

Please join me on September 11th to honor the family members of our great organization and the Soldiers and Airmen who have answered our nation's call to arms to fight the war on terrorism.

The date September 11th has enormous historical significance and serves as a constant reminder that we should never forget the devastating attack on the United States on that tragic day in 2001.

The terrorist attacks of September 11th continue to impact the current operations of our organization and how we will operate and be structured in the future.

For nearly three years the citizen Soldiers and Airmen of the Connecticut National Guard have responded to the call, serving valiantly with honor and pride, and continuing to remain ever vigilant and committed to the cause of preserving our freedom

Today nearly 240 members of our organization are currently deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and the Global War on Terrorism. Other units have been alerted and preparations for future

rotations are on going

This year's event will commence with a ribbon cutting ceremony to signify the completion of Colonel Robert B. Nett Leadership Hall. This multi-purpose facility will serve as an assembly area for battalion size elements and promote the inspiration that Col. Nett continues to have on today's young soldiers.

We are honored to have Col. Nett, Medal of Honor recipient and member of America's greatest generation, as our guest for this event. He is a true friend of the Connecticut National Guard and we are indebted for his dedicated service.

The schedule of events will include the presentation of colors flown in by sky divers, musical selections by the United States Army Chorus, and entertainment provided by country singer Stephanie Eisley, and country band Whiskey River.

Our Commander-in-Chief, the honorable Gov. M. Jodi Rell will join us in honoring the sacrifices of our family members. Military static displays, a flyover by both the Army and Air National Guard, and a reception at the Point are all highlights for the day's event.

Children's activities include carnival games, a dunking booth, caricature artists, and inflatable

rides. The National Guard sponsored NASCAR display will also be featured.

The Connecticut National Guard Foundation, the Connecticut Department of Veteran's Affairs, the American Red Cross, and the Connecticut Freemasons Children Identification unit will all participate in the event

The event will conclude with a reception at the Point, with live music, good food and refreshments allowing Soldiers, Airmen and their families to spend a relaxing afternoon together.

Mark your calendars! Join me in making this event a remarkable success and thanking all those who care and sacrifice each day for the freedom we enjoy.

God bless you and your families!



Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno Adjutant General

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First Company Governors Horse Guard

Second Company Governors Horse Guard

First Company Governors Foot Guard

Second Company Governors Foot Guard

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Perspectives

How do you think the new Aerospace Expeditionary Force steady state rotation length increase (July 2004 Guardian) from 90 days to 120 days will effect you?



SENIOR AIRMAN JOSEPH D. MAZZIE 103RD MAINTENANCE SQUADRON

"Don't really like it. In the future it will be a problem."

Master Sgt. Holly L. Caroon 103[®] Maintenance Group

"As a dual military spouse, I hope we [her and husband] can split the timeframe. But being in the military you have to do what you have to do."



Master Sgt. Stanley Swietek 103RD Fighter Wing

"It is a lot of days...it is bearable though. I could do that [120 days]"

Lt. Col. Richard D. Erdmann 103rd Air Control Squadron

"I am all for it, it provides more continuity. It is easier to schedule, and the extra 30 days means that the time between one and the next call is 40 months versus the old 30 months."





TECH. SGT. DANIEL A. TAYLOR 103RD MAINTENANCE SQUADRON

"Put my name on the list. I am ready."

Capt. David L. Fecso 103rd Fighter Wing

"I think volunteerism will be more of a challenge but the mission will still be accomplished."



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Bush to set up Counterterrorism Center, asks for intel czar

"Many of these

9/11 Commission.

changes are specific

Others will go further

commission's report."

than the proposal of the

President George W. Bush

President Bush will establish a National Counterterrorism Center and will ask Congress to create the position of national intelligence director, he said during a White House news conference Aug. 2.

Bush said he will announce further changes to the intelligence effort in the

All institutions and levels of government, Bush said, must be fully prepared for a struggle against terror.

"Our goal is an integrated, unified, national intelligence effort," he said. "Many of these changes are specific recommendations of the 9/11 Commission. Others will go further than the proposal of the commission's report."

The reforms are aimed at ensuring that decision makers have the best information in the war on terror, Bush said. Congress must create the position of national intelligence director. The president would nominate his choice for the position to the Senate for confirmation, as is the practice for many appointed officials now.

"The national intelligence director will serve as the president's principal intelligence adviser and will oversee and coordinate the foreign and domestic activities of the intelligence community," Bush said.

The national intelligence director would

have the authority to "coordinate" the budgets of the 15 separate intelligence agencies. "I want - and every president must have - the best, unbiased, unvarnished assessment of America's intelligence professionals," Bush said.

National Counterterrorism Center will build on the work of the Threat Terrorist

Integration Center, and will become the government's data bank for information about known and suspected terrorists.

The Terrorist Threat Integration Center, based at CIA headquarters in Langley, Va.,

just outside Washington, grew out of a proposal Bush made in his 2003 State of the Union address. The center merged terroristrelated information collected domestically and abroad in order to form the most comprehensive possible threat picture.

The new counterterrorism center will

coordinate monitor plans and activities of all government agencies and departments to recommendations of the ensure effective joint action and that U.S. efforts are unified in priority and purpose.

> The center will prepare the daily terrorism report for the president and senior

officials. The director of the new center will report to the national intelligence director once that position is created. Until then, the director of the center will report to the director of central intelligence.

Bush said that with the growing threat of weapons of mass destruction and missile proliferation, "it may also be necessary to create a similar center in our government to bring together our intelligence analysis, planning and operations to track and prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction."

The president said the federal government already has taken many steps to address the terrorist threat.

"Across the world, we've aggressively pursued al Qaeda terrorists, destroyed their training camps and ended their sanctuaries,"he said. "We're working closely with other countries to gather intelligence and make arrests and to cut off terrorist finances."

Bush said his most solemn duty is to protect the United States.

"In the three years since our country was attacked, we've taken steps to overcome new threats," he noted. "We will continue to do everything in our power to defeat the terrorist enemy and to protect the American people."



Standing with members of his national security team, President George W. Bush discusses America's intelligence reforms in the Rose Garden Monday, Aug. 2, 2004. (White House photo)

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Candidates up to the challenge at OCS

Sgt. Jeff Austin 65™ PCH

Sweat pouring down the faces and grimaces of pain were there for all to see while candidates were performing push-ups and then running several yards to perform chin-ups before they began their mid-day meal.

This is just a typical activity for officer candidates attending Phase One Officer Candidate School (OCS) at Camp Rell.

Phase One is a two week program candidates have to successfully pass so to begin their careers as Army officers. On a typical day, candidates participated in hours of classroom and field instruction with approximately five hours of sleep per day.

According to Maj. Paul E. Degnan, 1st OCS Battalion 169th Leadership Regiment commander, the idea behind Phase One is to have the candidate maintain discipline and make decisions under very stressful conditions.

Many candidates took the stressful days in stride as they were inspired to continue with the training.

"A sense of service," said Officer Candidate Brendan W. Arbuckle. He's a priorservice candidate who spent three years in the Army at Fort Carson, Colorado. Arbuckle returned to military duty after a nine-year layoff.

"I always had a lot of respect for officers and I thought it would be a challenge to be an officer; not just the act of being an officer but the challenge of inspiring and leading Soldiers," said Arbuckle.

According to Degnan, candidates prepared for OCS by first attending Phase Zero. It was during this time that much of the paperwork was processed and counseling was held to prepare the candidates for Phase One.

During Phase One, candidates received skill training including land navigation, map reading and leadership rules. If a candidate fails any test, he or she is counseled and provided additional study time to retake the test. Any candidate who fails the same test twice is released from the OCS program.

Amid, the hardships of doing push-ups, chin-ups and running from one place to another in full battle gear, candidates displayed their desire to continue with the program.

Candidates also expressed their reasons why they accepted the challenge of becoming an Army officer.

According to Officer Candidate Tyshon D. Gorham, the inspiration he developed originated in the Connecticut Army National Guard.

"I had attended basic training seven years ago and have seven years in the Connecticut Army National Guard (CTARNG). When I first joined the Guard it was for education, but I changed along the way. The values I learned with the Army, I was able to apply and use to get through college. So, I want give back to the Army and the State of Connecticut."

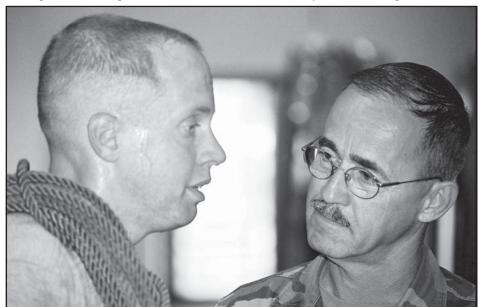
One staff member who successfully completed the school and has returned to train future Army officers is 1st Lt. Shaun P. O'Dea, 1st Battalion OCS, teach, assess, counsel (TAC) officer. O'Dea began to reminisce on why he returned as a TAC officer.

"I wanted to be a TAC because I enjoyed the direct interaction with Soldiers in a way

to help them improve themselves," said O'Dea. He then remembered vividly why he attended OCS. "I wanted to accept the challenge of leadership. I heard the Connecticut OCS is an extremely challenging school."

In reflecting on why they entered the OCS program, several candidates expressed patriotism and duty to country; but the common reason they cite is the challenge of leading Soldiers.

"Certainly, the hardships candidates



Master Sgt. Joseph Chamberlain, a course manager with the NCO program, takes time to counsel an officer candidate during in-processing at Camp Rell. (Photo by Spec. Jesse J. Stanley, 65th PCH)

endure can deter anyone away without a strong will to complete the school," said Sgt. 1st Class Colleen A. Smith, 169th Leadership Regiment, senior personnel NCO. "They really have to want it."

Under the mid-day sun, Officer Candidate John R. Phelan stood at ease and explained why he continues with OCS.

"September 11th changed us all," said Phelan. "There was never a time I thought about quitting OCS."

Enlisted Guard members who are interested in OCS classes should contact their unit readiness NCO for further information.



OC John Rossi stops to catch his breath after finally making it into the barracks with all his gear. (Photo by Spec. Jesse J. Stanley, 65th PCH)

Don't miss out on training

SPC. JORDAN E. WERME 65[™] PCH

The initial steps along the path to becoming a U.S. Soldier are pretty standard, but Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training are only the first steps along that path.

The 169th Regiment (LDR), Camp Rell, conducts several courses throughout the year geared toward expanding Soldiering skills and advancing Soldiers' careers.

"If young Soldiers don't know what's coming up," said Sgt. 1st Class Chuck Bussher, operations and training noncommissioned officer, "they won't ever get the training that's available to them."

The current Fall schedule of courses available through the 169th includes the following:

Fitness Leadership Course, September 17-19. Learn to manage fitness programs for a unit. This includes weight control, Army Physical Fitness Test and fitness counseling.

Pre-Primary Leadership Development Course, September 18-19. The Pre-PLDC is designed to help prepare those Soldiers who will be participating in PLDC. The course includes weigh-in, APFT and teaches land navigation in both classroom and field exercises at Stone's Ranch.

Health & Wellness Program, September 25 – December 12. This program is designed to assist Soldiers in danger of being released from service due to APFT failure or unsatisfactory body fat levels.

Small Group Instructor, September 18-19 and 25-26. This course focuses on the decision-making, problem-solving, and communication skills, as well as leadership values. Only Soldiers who have successfully completed the Army Instructor Training Course are eligible for this class.

Combat Lifesaver Course, October 23-24 and November 20-21. A combination of 15 Buddy Aid tasks and ten Medical Tasks make up this course, which qualifies Soldiers for the Combat Lifesaver Designation.

Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course, November 20 – April 17. This class teaches leadership skills, NCO authority, duties and responsibilities to sergeants wishing to advance to the rank of staff sergeant. Soldiers must have completed PLDC to participate in this course.

More information on these and other classes offered at Camp Rell is available through your unit's training NCO or by contacting Sgt. 1st Class Bussher at the 169th Regiment (LDR), (860) 691-4210.

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No time for walking on the road to becoming an officer

Spec. Jesse J. Stanley $65^{\text{\tiny TH}}$ PCH

Soldiers began their journey to become great officers at Camp Rell during their Phase One Officer Candidate School training, which began July 17.

The officer candidates from 13 states stayed at Camp Rell for two weeks for OCS Phase 1. During that time they learned the rudimentary skills needed to eventually become an officer in the Army National Guard. If any believed that their two weeks would be easy, they were in for a surprise. From the moment the OCs hit the ground at Camp Rell they were running. In fact, everywhere they go they are expected

Like a swarm of bees the Teaching Assessing and Counseling (TAC) officers were all over the candidates.

"The biggest challenge is getting them into the OCS mindset," said Maj. Paul Degnan, a Massachusetts guardsman and OCS company commander. "In the OCS

with people they do not know and overcome stress and strenuous activity to work together."

The TAC officers, who are designated by their black hats that quickly become reminiscent of drill sergeant hats, are the ones responsible for applying this stress. The TACs are officers and enlisted Soldiers assigned with the mission to teach the skills new officers need to perform their missions, assess the candidates for officer qualities and counsel candidates on their strengths and weaknesses and how they can improve. The cadre is responsible for molding future officers that will be their peers, the subordinate officers and future commanders.

Officers are expected to be able to lead Soldiers and make decisions even under

"They may have to make decisions when bullets are flying," said 1st Lt. Evan Evans,

environment they work long, hard hours TAC officer. "If we can push them to the breaking point here, what would they do in that type of situation?"

To simulate the demands an officer could face the TACs immerse the candidates in a stressful environment where they will have to make decisions.

Each candidate will have an opportunity to act in various leadership roles from squad leader to company commander. The candidates will have the difficult task of working with people from different states that they have never met and at times giving orders to their peers.

"I think the hardest part will be taking direction from and giving direction to your peers," said OC John Rossi, from Connecticut.

They also have the challenge of dealing with issues that officers must face in the field.

"The stress is expected," said OC Frank Quintane, from New York. "To lead troops you have to live to a high standard. Getting a

task on short notice, making a plan and executing it properly will be challenging."

The candidates from Connecticut had an idea of what they were going to see when they arrived at Phase One they have the opportunity to go through Phase Zero training. They spent one weekend over each of the last three months at Camp Rell training in similar conditions as they would face in Phase One.

"The Connecticut candidates are very well prepared," Rossi said. "Our TAC staff prepared us well by giving us an environment similar to what we are facing

The two weeks spent in Phase One is the first step in the 14-month process of becoming an officer. The future leaders of the Army National Guard have taken their first steps toward their commission, they won't be walking though, there's no time for walking in OCS.



A group of candidates receive motivational training as their peers stand-by in formation during Phase 1 OCS at Camp Rell, Niantic. (Photo by Spec. Jesse J. Stanley, 65th PCH)

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Air Force Uniform Board releases results

CHIEF MASTER SGT. KRISTINE SHAW
CTANG MILITARY PERSONNEL MANAGER

The CSAF has released its decision concerning the 96th Air Force Uniform Board that met in June 2003. The latest changes to the Air Force Dress and Appearance range from changing the ceremonial band uniform to allowing Airmen to have clean shaven heads.

The board reviewed more than 100 uniform and policy changes; approving 39 for implementation. Many of the items approved will require redesign and in some cases phase out dates to make sure current supplies are exhausted. The phase out and redesign phase could take between 3 - 5 years, however some of the changes will be implemented immediately.



Master Sgt. Dana Athnos tries on one of the gray no-polish boots being wear-tested at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. Athnos, who is assigned to the Air Force Uniform Board at the Pentagon, volunteered to assist with the Air Force Uniform Board's testing of a possible replacement for the current battle dress uniform. Testers are selected from airmen of all ranks and will provide board members with feedback. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Keith Reed)

The following uniform/policy changes are authorized immediately for all airmen:

- 1. Authorization to wear maternity t-shirt either tucked in or left out with BDUs
- 2. Authorize the lightweight blue jacket to be worn indoors
- 3. Authorize as an option to have the AF symbol embroidered on the lightweight blue jacket
- 4. Authorize conservative ornamentation on nonprescription sunglasses and eyeglasses; frames may be black or brown material or gold/silver wire; brand name glasses may be worn with small logo on frames of lens; logo must be same color as frames or lens
- 5. Authorize wear of conservative wrap around sunglasses; frames may be black or brown material brand name glasses may be worn with small logo on frames or lens; logo must be same color as frames or lens
- 6. Authorize only one small black, nondescriptive personal digital assistance (PDA), pager, or cellular phone at a time be worn on the uniform belt
- 7. Allow females to wear small black spherical earrings when in uniform
- 8. Allow black web belt or black riggers belt with nondescript black buckle as an optional item with BDUs
- 9. Remove requirement to wear a tie or tab with short sleeve shirt or blouse while traveling on a commercial airline
- 10. Authorize wear of a backpack over both shoulders
- 11. Allow survival, evasion, resistance, and escape (sere) specialist to wear the sere arch on the BDUs
- 12. Allow males to cleanly shave their heads or have military high-and-tight haircuts; females are not authorized to shave their heads or wear high-and-tight haircuts
- 13. Authorize baseball caps to be worn not only at home station but also at CONUS TDY; no overseas locations
- 14. Add in AFI 36-2903, "no hands in pocket authorized"
- 15. Add guidance in AFI 36-2903 on military creases; not authorized in AF uniforms; creases will only be on sleeves and pant legs
- 16. Clarify in AFI 36-2903 the installation commander has overall authority for wear of uniform during sports events

All other items will be implemented when further guidance becomes available and will be incorporated into the revision of AFI-36-2503. To review all results of the Uniform Board visit http://www.military.com/NewContent/0,13190,News_AirForce_070604,00.html

Questions should be directed to the 103rd MPF, Customer Support Section at (860) 292-2442.

Air Force symbol now official

STAFF SGT. MELANIE STREETER AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS

The Air Force symbol is now official, four years after the service first applied for trademark protection.

"I'm proud our symbol is now an official part of our heritage," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper.

"It represents our storied past and links our 21st Century Air Force to our core values and capabilities."

The decision to designate it as the official symbol of the Air Force demonstrates the service's conviction to preserving the symbol's integrity and should ease concerns that the symbol is temporary or remains a test.

Trademark protection designates the symbol as exclusive property of the Air Force and gives the service authority to control and enforce its use.

A team of lawyers, public affairs officers, artists and historians are working to expand guidance and standards for the use of the symbol.

An official Air Force Instruction is scheduled for release in fiscal 2005.

In the meantime, the intent is to expand

use of the symbol today and protect it for the future. Use must be consistent with applicable Air Force instructions and symbol guidelines posted at

www.af.mil/library/symbol/.

When Air Force officials began testing the symbol in 2001, it appeared on a limited number of base entry signs and water towers and a small number of aircraft and vehicles

Acceptance during the test was so widespread that in 2002, 90 percent of Airmen surveyed thought the symbol

w a s already U.S. AIR FORCE official.

"Since then, I've seen Airmen wear it, drive it, eat it, carry it, embroider it and even brand it," said Maj. René Stockwell, of the Air Force public affairs national outreach and communications division, who manages the symbol Trademark licensing program.

The service is licensing use of the symbol on a variety of commercial

goods, from candy and furniture to tires and jewelry, which allows Airmen to display their service pride offduty.

On duty, the symbol is featured on optional military tie tacs, the proposed utility uniform and gray boots, the Air Force lightweight blue jacket and is being showcased in Air Force marketing campaigns.

"We've used the symbol to help

encourage people to join, Airmen to stay and [to] build understanding, appreciation and support for America's Air Force," Stockwell said.



Airmen and their families can help protect the integrity of the symbol by adhering to the guidelines online, the major said.

They have an implied license to use the Air Force symbol on personal items such as printed materials, food, clothing, literature and briefings.

These items must be intended for personal or internal use only, not used for retail sales, advertising or unauthorized endorsements.

Any commercial use of the symbol, by individuals or companies, requires completion of a license agreement with the Air Force, Stockwell said.

People with questions not covered online can e-mail the Air Force Symbol office at afstory@pentagon.af.mil.

Examining your rights and responsibilities under the Geneva Conventions

PFC. JOSEPH BROOKS 65™ PCH

Every member of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines possesses and carries with them a card that identifies them as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States. Written on the bottom of this identification card, otherwise known as the DD form 2, are the words Geneva Conventions Identification Card. This is just a small example of the ways that the Geneva Conventions affect the lives of service members both at home and on deployment on a daily basis.

The international law that has come to be known as the Geneva Conventions is actually the result of several international conventions of world leaders who met to write laws to govern appropriate military conduct. The international law gained its name after the first convention, which was held in Geneva, Switzerland in 1864. The purpose of the first conventions was to develop a set of laws to protect sick and

wounded Soldiers from mistreatment by their captors.

The current form of the Geneva Conventions originated from this original convention and has evolved to include rules

that were signed in 1949 at the second convention and the amendments made at the two conventions in 1977. The international laws which govern warfare also take into account the Hague Conventions and various other customs and laws which have developed over several centuries.

The international members who penned the Geneva Conventions saw the horrors

of unrestrained warfare and as such attempted to civilize warfare. One of the primary roles of the conventions is to distinguish between actions that can be taken against combatants and noncombatants. Rules have developed to dictate how members of the Armed Forces can treat civilians. These rules also place limitations on targeting civilians who reside in combat zones and limitations on

biological, chemical and nuclear weapons. These international laws

also distinguish between the roles of journalists and medical personnel from the roles of combatants.

The Geneva
Conventions affect the
roles of combatants in a
military action and directly
affect the way in which
members of the Armed Forces

perform their duties. American members of the Armed Forces are bound by duty, oath and military justice to follow the laws of warfare. The affect of these international laws are present within military orders and the rules of engagement. These laws include restrictions on firing on non-military targets or civilians. They restrict the type of weaponry used against enemy combatants. They distinguish medical and religious personnel from regular combatants and restrict hostile activities against such personnel. They also dictate the treatment of Enemy Prisoners of War and what the proper protocol is when taking, holding and questioning EPWs.

It is this section of the conventions that has received the most press in the military actions in Iraq. Seven United States Soldiers have been charged with prisoner abuse at the Abu Gharib prison outside Baghdad, Iraq.

Since this incident, it has become more important than ever that service members and their commanders take the time in educating themselves on the laws that govern warfare.

It is the responsibility of every member of the Armed Forces to familiarize himself or herself with the laws of warfare and their rules of engagement.

Army's Top NCO discusses recruiting, retention, optempo

JIM GARAMONE
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

The Army is not concerned about recruiting and retention for fiscal 2004, but the service will keep a weather eye on future trends, said Sergeant Major of the Army Kenneth O. Preston.

Preston also said the Army transformation plan should make deployments more predictable and more manageable.

"I watch recruiting and retention very closely," Preston said during an interview with the Pentagon Channel and American Forces Press Service July 23. He said for active duty accessions the service is above 100 percent for fiscal 2004. This is with a bump up from 72,500 new Soldiers in 2003 to 77,500 this year.

The chief enlisted adviser to the Army chief of staff said it is important that the Army have these additional people. The increase will help make transformation of the service a reality, he said.

For the Army Reserve the picture is also fairly clear. The component is at 98.7 percent, "well on the glide path for accessions."

However, for the Army National Guard accessions are at 87.2 percent.

"What we think is that you have a lot of active duty Soldiers who are re-enlisting to stay in the Army," Preston said. "Those that are getting out are not necessarily going in to the National Guard or (Army) Reserve."

Much of this shortfall is offset by the service's success in retention.

"On retention, the National Guard was at 118 percent, so the two kind of balance each

other," Preston said. Overall retention for the Army Reserve is at 101 percent.

On the active duty side, the overall Army retention rate is more than 100 percent. This overall rate is broken into three categories – initial, mid- career and careerists. The first term re-enlistment rate is over 100 percent of goal. The careerists are at or over 100 percent also. The mid-career Soldiers – those between six and 10 years of service are experiencing a dip in re-enlistments.

The service will continue to closely monitor the recruiting and retention issue. The Army will not hesitate to use enlistment bonuses, selective re- enlistment bonuses and other incentives to get people to join the service or to entice seasoned Soldiers to stay.

The Army is also working on optempo. Right now the service has supplied to Army Gen. John Abizaid, head of U.S. Central Command, what he needs for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The service is working to make the deployment schedule more predictable and less frequent.

The sergeant major said the service is doing well "as far as mobilizing and training those units to go in for the mission." The situation is a bit more problematic for the Guard and Reserve, he said.

"What people don't understand is that a lot of those (reserve) units are not necessarily manned 100 percent (all the time)," he said. If the Army mobilizes a Guard battalion, for example, it may have to fill up the unit before it can deploy. Preston stressed the Army will not deploy a unit



Sgt. Maj. of the Army, Sgt. Maj. Kenneth O. Preston applauds Soldiers who have completed the Army Birthday Run in the Military District of Washington. (File Photo)

without a full complement and without the best training and equipment the United States can provide.

The sergeant major said transformation of the service will pay dividends in the future. He said the 3rd Infantry Division, the unit that led the charge into Baghdad last year, will return to the country with a whole new look. In addition to new equipment, the division will have four maneuver brigades rather than three.

Preston said the 101st Airborne Division is set to go through a similar transformation

and the 10th Mountain Division will also get another brigade.

"That means that just this year we'll add a division's worth of forces to the Army," he said.

He said this transformation "should take some of the pressure off the low- density, high-demand type of units."

The sergeant major, who previously served as the sergeant major of then-Combined Joint Task Force 7 in Baghdad, will return to the region shortly.

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integral to the success of today's Army, both active and reserves. However the warrant officer makes up less than 3% of the Army's total fighting force. The Army Warrant Officer Corps is comprised of more than 25,000 men and women of the active Army and reserve components.

The Connecticut Army National Guard has joined in on the Army's national effort to increase the number of warrant officers in the Army. The plans for a major recruiting campaign directed to this effort is already in place and the hope is to increase the number of warrant officer candidates in both active and reserve components. This is important with the impending loss of many warrant officers in the next few years due to retirement.

"Those soldiers interested should contact their unit's Full-Time Support Personnel (FTSP) and ask questions," said Warrant Officer Mark Marini, Command Chief Warrant Officer for the State of Connecticut, Joint Force Headquarters "and the FTSP will send you to me or Sgt. Maj. Laura Danao for further information."

Warrant officers are highly specialized, single-track specialty officers who receive their authority from the Secretary of the Army upon their initial appointment. Further clarification of the warrant officer position and responsibilities is defined in Field Manual 22-100: "Warrant officers are technical experts that manage and maintain increasingly complex battlefield systems. They enhance the Army's ability to defend our national interests, and to fight and win our nation's wars."

"When you become a Warrant Officer you have the best of both worlds, the ability to continue to serve in your technical career field combined with the leadership responsibilities of an officer which leads you to becoming a great leader," Marini said.

In order to qualify as a warrant officer an applicant must be in most cases an E-5 or higher. There are also some basic requirements you must meet as determined by the Army National Guard. Applicants must be between the ages of 18 and 46 (for applicants for initial appointment in Military Occupational Specialties (MOS) 153A, Rotary Wing Aviator: the applicant must meet the basic requirements except he or she must not be older than 27 years and 6 months at time of application). Additional requirements include a score of 110 or above

on the General Aptitude Area Test, be a high school graduate or pass the General Education Development test (GED), be a U.S. citizen by birth or naturalization, be able to successfully pass all events on the Army Physical Fitness Test, meet certain mandatory technical qualifications for your specific MOS and meet certain medical, security and licensing requirements (depending on your specific MOS).

If the applicant meets all the necessary prerequisites, he or she will be ready to proceed to the next step in becoming an Army National Guard warrant officer. That next step is the requesting of a predetermination packet. This packet is prepared with the help of your FTSP, officer personnel or the state Command Chief Warrant Officer, and will be used to determine eligibility. The packet is then forwarded to the proper Active Duty Proponent for approval. If all of the requirements are met, he or she can be considered for appointment as a warrant officer candidate (WOC).

The next step is appearing before a Federal Recognition Board to determine eligibility for appointment. If the board results are favorable, they are appointed a

The applicant then enrolls in Warrant Officer Candidate School (WOCS), located in Fort Rucker, AL. The course is six weeks long; however Reserve and National Guard personnel have the option of going to a 28-day course instead.

The course consists primarily of classroom training on various military topics taught by Teach, Assess and Counseling (TAC) officers. These topics range from the history of the warrant officer to military courtesies. A typical class day consists of over 15 hours of training with about nine of those hours devoted to classroom instruction

The course is set in a very demanding environment, to simulate the demands that a warrant officer might face. Candidates face mental, emotional and physical demands on a daily basis.

"I was prepared for how hard it eventually turned out to be," said Warrant Officer Jacquie Thomas, military personnel technician, Joint Force Headquarters, a recent graduate of WOCS. "It was much harder than basic training. There was a lot of mental and physical stress, however if you go into the course expecting and prepared for both, the course progressively gets easier."

The skills that a Soldier receives after completion of WOCS include leadership, communication, management and ethics. Skills that the Soldier, now at the rank of warrant officer one (WO-1), will use in his or her field of specialty.

"The reason I decided to go the warrant officer route is the tremendous amount of respect that comes from the rank and it's more job specific than that of an officer," said Thomas.

Other opportunities and benefits include increase of pay and retirement, faster promotion potential, technical training and education, extended career path, challenging assignments, the ability to perform core duties longer and to be a member of a small and elite corps.

"We're looking for people that are energetic, who want to take care of their soldiers, share their knowledge and are excellent leaders," Marini said.

For further information about becoming a Warrant Officer log on www.1800goguard.com/warrantofficer/ warrant.html or www.usarec.army.mil/



Brig. Gen. I. J. Zembrzuski, assistant adjutant general, Army, pins the new Master Warrant Officer rank insignia on Master Warrant Officer Paul Therrien during ceremonies held at the Hartford Armory marking the change in rank insignia as well as the change over for Warrant Officers to wear their branch insignia instead of the Eagle Rising insignia they had been wearing. To the far right are Master Chief Warrant Officer Mark Marini and Warrant Officer Jackie Thomas, representing the most senior and junior Warrant Officers in the Connecticut Army National Guard. (Photo by Spc. Jordan Werme, 65th PCH)

Career Guardsman named Fighter Wing commander



Col. Daniel L. Peabody, receives the unit colors from Brig. Gen. Thaddeus J. Martin, assistant adjutant general-air, during a change-of-command ceremony. The passing of colors is symbolic of the transfer of responsibility from the outgoing commander to the incoming commander. (Photo by Senior Airman Erin E. McNamara, 103rd Communications Flight)

STAFF SGT. CAROLYN A. ASELTON 103RD FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS NCOIC

The Operations Group commander of the 103rd Fighter Wing took command of the wing July 11 in a change-of-command ceremony on base.

Col. Daniel L. Peabody succeeds Col. Daniel R. Scace, who will become Deputy Director, Joint Forces Headquarters-Connecticut, located in Hartford.

"There is not much in the Guard that you all have done that I have not experienced too," Peabody told a formation of airmen during the ceremony. He said that during his military career he had balanced school, a civilian career and family with his service obligations.

"Because of these common experiences, I have a better understanding of the challenges you face and the commitments you make to be part of this unit," the East Granby native said.

The outgoing commander also had a chance to share his thoughts.

"Over the last four years, we have been through some difficult times and we've accomplished a lot, working hard to do our mission, putting in some long hours, sharing good times and bad, but always supporting one another," said Scace, the outgoing commander, to the formation. Scace led the unit during 9-11 and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Peabody is a command pilot with more than 4,100 flying hours including 48 combat missions. He has served as an air expeditionary group commander in Iraq and lead unit project officer and detachment commander for an Air National Guard A-10 air expeditionary force in Kuwait.

He has also served as the training, safety and life support officer at the squadron level and flight commander, operations support flight commander, operations officer and squadron commander.

Peabody enlisted in the Connecticut Air National Guard in 1976 and served as an F-100D/F crew chief and in phase maintenance.

He earned his bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y., followed by a juris doctorate (law degree) at Western New England College School of Law in Springfield, Mass. He graduated Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College and Air War College by correspondence. He graduated the ACC Joint Firepower Control Course at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada and completed the ANG Senior Leader Seminar in Washington, D.C.

During his 28 years of service, Peabody has earned many awards and decorations, including the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Aerial Achievement Medal one oak leaf cluster, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with device and one oak leaf cluster, Combat Readiness Medal with device and seven oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with two oak leaf clusters and United Nations Medal.

Peabody is a member of the National Guard Association, National Guard Association of Connecticut, the Flying Yankee Officers Club, the Maine Bar Association, the Massachusetts Bar Association and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Bar.

Peabody resides in Windsor and is the father of triplets, Laura, Danny and Jimmy.

Fighter Wing gives outstanding performance awards

Staff Sgt. Carolyn A. Aselton 103^{RO} Fighter Wing Public Affairs NCOIC

The 103rd Fighter Wing recognized its 2003 outstanding performers during a ceremony on base July 10.

Senior Airman Todd N. Dumais, who won the first sergeants' Diamond Award, knowingly competed for his award.

"I feel honored and appreciated," he said after the ceremony.

And rightfully so. Master Sgt. John Carter III, first sergeant, 103rd Fighter Wing, and president of the First Sergeants Association, said the Diamond recipient is someone who sets himself apart from everybody else.

"When Senior Airman Dumais boarded, he was very sharp. He knew what he was talking about," Carter said.

For others, receiving an award came as a surprise.

"The best part about accepting the awards was the surprise—just not knowing and being surprised," said Senior Airman Amber R. Kauffman, production control specialist, 103rd Maintenance Operations Flight. She picked up three awards during the ceremony.

"It means that the hard work that I put in, that you sometimes don't feel is recognized, is acknowledged and appreciated," she said.

The 103rd Fighter Wing 2003 Awards and Recipients

Honor Guardsman of the Year: Staff Sgt. Meisha Nieves

103rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Technician Crew Chief of the Year: Senior Airman Jennifer A. Artiaco

Traditional Crew Chief of the Year: Senior Airman Jillian M. Rolla

Weapons Loading Crew Chief of the Year: Tech.

Sgt. Richard T. Canino

Weapons Loading Crew Position #2 Person: Senior Airman Lauren M. Golebiewski

Weapons Loading Crew Position #3 Person: Senior Airman Jonathon L. Favreau

Gun Services Person of the Year: Tech. Sgt. Roy A. Worcester

Weapons Release Person of the Year: Airman 1st Class Adam R. Allard

103rd Civil Engineering Squadron

Firefighter of the Year: Senior Airman Nicholas Gregorio and Tech. Sgt. Matt Jamieson

Civil Engineering Airman of the Year: Senior Airman Todd Dumais

Civil Engineering NCO of the Year: Staff Sgt. John Stevens

Civil Engineering Senior NCO of the Year: Master Sgt. Greg Davis

103rd Logistics Readiness Squadron

Transportation Specialist of the Year: Staff Sgt. Josh Lanati

Supply Specialist of the Year: Staff Sgt. Craig Pelkey

Fuels Specialist of the Year: Staff Sgt. Kristen

103rd Communications Flight

Mulitmedia Specialist of the Year: Master Sgt. Jeanne E. Daigneau

Information Systems Communicator of the Year: Master Sgt. Robert P. Zukauskas

Communications Flight Planning and Implementation Journeyman of the Year: Master Sgt. Steven S. Decker

Communications Flight Maintainer of the Year: Senior Airman Eric W. Dunn

Commander's Award: Staff Sgt. Louis R. Manfredi

103rd Maintenance Squadron

Equipment Maintenance Flight Supervisor of the Year: Senior Master Sgt. Shawn Robert

Aerospace Ground Equipment Element Specialist of the Year: Master Sgt. Charles Erdmann

Fabrication Element Specialist of the Year: Tech. Sgt. Daniel Taylor

Munitions Element Specialist of the Year: Staff Sgt. Felix Ortiz

Avionics Specialist of the Year: Senior Airman Tina Blake Propulsion Specialist of the Year: Staff Sgt.

Paul Thaxton
Component Repair Flight Supervisor of the

Year: Master Sgt. Scott Luke
Aerospace Specialist of the Year: Staff Sgt.

Frank Capurso

Quality Assurance Specialist of the Year:

Quality Assurance Specialist of the Yea Master Sgt. John Hannaford

103rd Security Forces Squadron

Airman of the Year: Staff Sgt. Walter Cichon NCO of the Year: Tech. Sgt. Matthew

Senior NCO of the Year: Senior Master Sgt. Tim Shaw

103rd Maintenance Operations Flight

Airman of the Year: Senior Airman Amber Kauffman

Senior NCO of the Year: Master Sgt. Dan Walsh

Flight Specialist of the Year: Senior Airman Amber Kauffman

103rd Fighter Wing Support Staff

Airman of the Year: Senior Airman Roberto

NCO of the Year: Staff Sgt. Chasity MacDonald

Senior NCO of the Year: Master Sgt. Lisa M. Guerette

103rd Medical Squadron

Outstanding Airman of the Year: Senior Airman Jeremy D. Plossay

Outstanding NCO of the Year: Staff Sgt. Kenneth J. Medvetz Outstanding Senior NCO of the Year: Master

Sgt. Lisa Graffam

Outstanding Junior Officer of the Year: 1st Lt. Tara Hood

103rd Mission Support Flight

Airman of the Year: Senior Airman Stephanie D. Mencarelli

Senior NCO of the Year: Senior Master Sgt.

John Macsata

Exemplary Service Award: Staff Sgt. Meisha Nieves

103rd Services Flight

Airman of the Year: Airman 1st Class Danessa

Most Improved Service's Airman: Senior Airman Khasim Harrell

Outstanding Services Airman of the Year: Senior Airman Christopher Jones

Deserving Airman Award: Staff Sgt. Gregory
Jones

NCO of the Year: Staff Sgt. Kristina McMahon Outstanding Combat Readiness Award: Senior Airman Jeremy Webber

103rd Operations Group

118th Fighter Squadron Airman of the Year: Senior Airman Michael J. Townsend

118th Fighter Squadron NCO of the Year: Staff Sgt. Dana R. Babcock 118th Fighter Squadron Officer of the Year: Lt.

Col. Brian T. Burger Operations Support Flight Junior Officer of

Operations Support Flight Junior Officer of the Year: 1st Lt. Robert E. O'Connor

Operations Support Flight Junior Officer of the Year: Tech. Sgt. Carleen N. Longano

103rd Fighter Wing

Outstanding Airman of the Year: Senior Airman Lizette Rovaldi

Outstanding NCO of the Year: Tech. Sgt. Paul Rhoades

Outstanding Senior NCO: Senior Master Sgt. Tim Shaw

Outstanding First Sergeant of the Year: Master

Sgt. Ed Gould
Outstanding Junior Officer of the Year: Capt.

Dufour
Diamond Award: Senior Airman Todd N.

Dumais

103rd Fighter Wing Commander's Awards Commander's Award to Master Sgt. Jeanne E.

Daigneau
Team Spirit: Award: 103rd Fighter Wing Family
Support Volunteers (including the Ombudsmen
and those who made contact calls to families)

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Focus: Army to reset into modular brigade-centric force

Editor's note: This is the seventh article in a series on the Army chief of staff's immediate focus areas.

As units return from Iraq, the Army will "reset" brigades into the fighting formations that will be needed in the future, a senior Army official said.

Under Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker's "modularity" focus area, the 33 maneuver brigades in today's activecomponent Army will be reset into 43 to 48 Brigade Units of Action. The Army will be temporarily "plussed up" by 30,000 troops to fill the added brigades, officials said.

The brigades will be smaller but more lethal, officials said, including artillery and reconnaissance assets previously at the division level. Some corps assets will also move down to the brigades.

The number of divisions will remain at 10 in the active component.

"The worst thing we could have done right now is bring on more divisions," a senior

Army official said, explaining that the Army little or no need for augmentation or doesn't need more headquarters staff; it needs more maneuver elements.

Along with the maneuver brigades, or "units of action," a division will have access to Support Units of Action (aviation, fires, reconnaissance sustainment. surveillance, and security/protection). For instance, a division could employ two heavy brigades, an infantry brigade, a Stryker Brigade Combat Team, and even a Marine Expeditionary Brigade, Army officials said. They said that the division headquarters will be joint capable by design and have greater capacity for "force packaging."

Current light infantry and heavy mechanized divisions, mountain divisions and armored divisions — will all reorganize into more similar and modular designs under the new plan. The seven different types of division headquarters today will become standardized, officials said, and be known as "units of employment."

In the future, a brigade aligned with one division could be employed into another with reorganization, a senior official said. In fact, he said a future rotation to Iraq might include brigades from five different locations.

The intent is to create a modular "brigadebased" Army that is more responsive to regional combatant commanders' needs, officials said.

"War always provides you with a much harder look at formations than peace does," the senior Army official said.

The 3rd Infantry Division, which returned from Iraq in September, is serving as the first test bed of the modularity concept. One of its brigades will test the new structure next month at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif.

The 101st Airborne Division, which returned last week from Iraq, will be the next to undergo the structure change, officials have announced

More than 200,000 Soldiers are currently on the move either deploying or redeploying from Southwest Asia.

"We're taking this window of opportunity to restructure forces for where we want to be with the Future Combat System," the senior Army official said.

"We're doing it with the most combattested and combat-experienced Army we've ever had," he said. "We have leaders at every level that understand the rigors of combat."

(Editor's note: The Army's 17 immediate areas of focus include: The Soldier; The Bench; Combat Training Centers/Battle Command Training Program; Leader Development and Education; Army Aviation; Current to Future Force; The Network; Modularity; Active Component/ Reserve Component Balance; Force Stabilization; Actionable Intelligence; Installations as Flagships; Authorities, Responsibilities, and Accountability; Resource

Processes; Strategic Communications; Joint Expeditionary Army with a Campaignquality Capability; and Logistics. To view a brief synopsis of each area, visit The Way

Army Chief says force gaining flexibility, agility

AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

The Army has an "extraordinary opportunity" to transform its forces to respond to "one of the most dangerous times in our history," the Army chief of staff told Congress July 21.

Gen. Peter Schoomaker said the Army has more than 600,000 people mobilized and on active duty supporting the war on terror, in testimony to the House Armed Services Committee. In addition, he said the Army is adding another 30,000 people through recruiting and retention, "growing the Army as fast as we can grow the Army" to increase this contribution.

While increasing the force, Schoomaker said the Army is focused on teaching leaders and soldiers to think quickly on their feet when confronting challenges, rather than relying on prescribed doctrine. This requires agility - both organizationally and intellectually, he said.

"The strength of a football team isn't the play that's called in the huddle and how well everybody knows the playbook," Schoomaker said. "The strength of the team is when you get to the line of scrimmage and the ball gets snapped — and what happens when everything changes.

"That's the difference. And that's the kind of Army we need."

Schoomaker — who played for the University of Wyoming in the 1968 Sugar Bowl — likened today's soldiers to players at one Super Bowl who stepped out of their traditional roles to win the game. "You might remember that the guy that caught the winning touchdown pass there happened to be a linebacker that they put in at the tight end," he said.

"That's the kind of force we need, where you've got this kind of agility organizationally and you've got this kind of intellectual agility" to anticipate and confront situations that arise.

This capability will increase the Army's ability to provide "relevant and ready land combat power" to combatant commanders and the joint team, Schoomaker said.

"It's very clear that this nation needs this Army to be able to fight sustained major land combat. And we are not going to uncover that capability," he said.

"But we also must be more like panathletes and decathletes and be able to deal on a very high level with other situations (and challenges) that we will face."

The Army's transformation effort is designed to promote this type of flexibility, he said. Among its major components is a move to modular, capabilities-based units flexible enough to adapt quickly to the missions they face and more unit stability.

Schoomaker said the Army's personnel system — in which 296,000 individual soldiers moved within a year, 40 percent of them to support manning requirements in Korea — left the service at a huge disadvantage.

"Fundamentally, we're disadvantaged from developing the kind of cohesive teams that we need to introduce into combat with stable leadership cadre and with trained and equipped crews," he said.

"What we are doing is forming stabilized units of enormous capability that will stay together, train together and fight together in ways that allow them to operate in a professional sense at a very high order."

In summary, Schoomaker returned to his football analogy. "You can have the best players in the world, but if you're going to play a long game, you'd better have the ability to keep doing it," he said, "and not run out of gas in the third quarter.

"And part of what we have to build into our Army is the capability to meet the commitments that we're going to have in the 21st century," the general pointed out. It's critical that this be done in a way that "will sustain us," while enabling the Army to maintain a volunteer force that continue to live up to its status as a "force of excellence."

Connecticut lieutenant escorts dignitaries while deployed



First Lt. Celine Marini stands at an undisclosed camp with Oliver North while he was overseas visiting U.S. troops deployed in the Global War on Terror. Marini is a member of the Connecticut Army National Guard who volunteered for deployment. She has been working in the public affairs arena while there. (Photo courtesy of First Lt. Celine Marini)

The Connecticut National Guard Welcomes Home its Heroes

Sept. 11, 2004 Camp Rell, Niantic, Connecticut

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JFHQ learns more about itself at Air Base

103RD FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Force Headquarters Connecticut spent July 13 at Bradley ANG Base East Granby for briefings and a tour. The day began with a welcome to the base from the new 103rd Fighter Wing Commander Col. Dan Peabody, who took command July 11.

Col. Louis Preziosi, chief of staff, Joint Force Headquarters briefed an overview of how the JFHQ came to its current structure and the

"[Our] Mission is to provide all the forces that could be needed," said Preziosi.

The Chief of Staff reviewed the organization and each area Mission essential task list. As he touched upon individual sections, the staff of those areas gave updates and clarification.

The Staff Judge Advocate explained a joint commander guide to the UCMJ is in process a work is going well.

Col. Steven Scorzato, deputy director, USPFO, explained the joint organization progress.

"Toward jointness we have a blue and green marriage," said Scorzato explaining the success. But also cautioned before true jointness could be reached some laws governing funds have to

Briefings were also given on the 103rd Fighter Wing, 103rd Air Control Squadron and the Connecticut Army National Guard.

The joint staff then took a short tour of some of their base's facilities and equipment, including the A-10 and the Engine Shop.

Following lunch, a few visitors for a Connecticut Military Heritage Committee presentation focusing on the Connecticut Air National Guard units after 9-11 joined the staff.

Much of the 103rd Fighter Wing deployed before 9-11, so after Col. Jack Swift, vice commander, 103rd Fighter Wing, explained the reaction of the deployed troops and subsequent support activations, the 118th Fighter Squadron Commander told the unit's Operation Iraqi Freedom story.

"On 30 September [2003] \$1.2mil was set aside for [special] upgrades to the A-10," said Lt.Col. Dennis Yount, commander, 118th Fighter Squadron who directed what became the first ever outfitting of A-10's with high resolution targeting pods. "14 October was the first flight with them [the pods], and the first combat sortie was flown on March 19 [2004]."

The upgrades to the A-10's were not made public because of the

nature of their then secret mission to search Western Iraq for missiles that could be launched at friendly forces.

Also kept quiet was the deployment location, which is still kept secret, where the unit was part of another first.

"We were so insulated [from the outside world] we were on about day 3 of the war on 19 March 03 before we found out it was even called Operation Iraqi Freedom. [The deployment] was the first time a whole combat fighter group, commandeer on down, were all from the Guard with a few special active duty units assigned in for their missions," said Yount, who added that not a single mission was cancelled due to maintenance issues.

With the 103rd Fighter wing story told, including some video of the A-10's pod in combat it was time for the next Air unit's story.

"This is half the story for the Connecticut Air Guard, the other half is the 103rd Air Control Squadron, who has a different story," said CW2 George Ripley, Military Heritage Committee Chair.

Standing in for the commander, an Air Control officer explained how the unit brought its radar on-line within a few hours of the Twin Towers attack to provide an air picture of the Long Island Sound area from the base in Orange.

A mission the unit carried on for months and is now performing over the National Capitol Area. He also explained what the unit did in Afghanistan in 2003.

'This was the first time an Air National Guard Air Control Squadron stood up a site in theatre for the Air Force, said Capt. Joseph C. Sorrentino, assistant operations training officer, 103rd Air Control Squadron. "It took nine C-17's to get most of the equipment there."

Particularly appropriate for this day of joint force activity was the joint activity Sorrentino explained.

From the Army base, "we worked with 7000 multinational troops, Air Force, Marine, Danish, Army assetswe were there to make sure they got the support when they needed it," said Capt Sorrentino. An example of that support was a 12 hour fire-fight where the control unit worked feverishly to make sure none of the friendly ground troops were hurt."

In typical Connecticut Guard fashion, the air control unit maintained a 98% in-commission rate for all their equipment explained Sorrentino.

The Military Heritage Committee event was taped by Connecticut Networks, check local cable listings or the CT-N.com website for broadcast times.



Master Sgt. William Febres (center), jet engine mechanic supervisor, 103rd Maintenance Squadron, explains engine shop equipment and components to the Joint Force Headquarters staff July 13 at Bradley ANG Base during the tour portion of the day. (Air Force photo by Maj. George Worrall, 103 Fighter Wing)

Guard seeks stabilization guarantee to attract recruits

JIM GARAMONE AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

The Army National Guard is seeking permission to "stabilize" prior-service enlistees for a year after they join the unit, said Brig. Gen. Frank Grass, the deputy director of the Army National Guard.

The Army Guard will miss its fiscal 2004 enlistment goal of 56,000 by about 5,000 Soldiers, Grass estimated during an interview with American Forces Press Service on July 29. "We're just about 2 percent under our authorized end- strength of 350,000."

Army officials stressed that no unit will deploy to a combat zone without full manning and the best training. The problem also varies in different parts of the United States. Unlike the active component or the Army Reserve, each state recruits its Guard members.

The problem with recruiting is in attracting prior-service personnel to the Guard. In the past, 50 percent of the personnel entering each year were prior service and 50 percent non-prior service.

As of June 30, the Army Guard has attracted 58 percent non-prior service and 42 percent prior-service personnel.

"It's quite obvious why," Glass said. "If you are coming off of active duty and you want to start a career or a family or you want to go to college, you will probably end up getting mobilized again."

At the same time, the active component has the stop-loss program in place. "So the availability of prior-service personnel is way down," he said.

Again, as of June 30, the Army Guard is about 3,500 under where officials thought they would be.

To attract prior service personnel, "we have to give those Soldiers an offer of stability," Grass said. "If they've just returned from a combat zone, or an overseas deployment ... and they are getting off active duty, we'd really like to offer them two years stability.

"In other words, unless there is another emergency, you can join the National Guard and we will not deploy you for two years."

The Guard has asked DoD for a one-year stabilization for these prior service personnel, which would be a policy change. Grass said he expects a decision within a

The general said this kind of a program will help attract these Soldiers to the Guard. "If they know they are stabilized, they can kind of map out their lives," he said.

The National Guard depends on the priorservice personnel. "They have tremendous combat experience, and we need them in the National Guard," he said.

So the Guard will do two things to help the recruiting effort: Add 500 National Guard recruiters to the rolls and shift advertising money from attracting prior-service personnel to the non-prior service effort.

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Record of Connecticut Men in the War of Rebellion

Editor's Note: This is the ninth monthly installment of the history of Connecticut's service in the Civil war, as published in the RECORD OF SERVICE OF CONNECTICUT MEN IN THE WAR OF REBELLION, 1861 TO 1865, from the History of the Second Connecticut Volunteers written by Gen. James B. Coit, Private IN Co. B. (Transcribed by Staff Sergeant Brett W. Wilson, Administrative Assistant to the USPFO for Connecticut)

The history of the Third Connecticut Light Battery is necessarily brief. The Battery was organized during the summer and early fall of 1864. Some of its members enlisted for one year and others for two years' service. It naturally attracted a number of men who had served terms of enlistment in other commands, notably in the First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, who, after a short period of civil life—the excitement of the war period still continuing were easily induced to re-enter the service as an independent body of artillerymen. Soon, therefore, as authorized, the work of enlistment went briskly on; the Battery was organized, its officers commissioned, and, in pursuance of Special Order No. 126, from Headquarters Volunteer Recruiting Service of Connecticut, left the State. According to instructions I reported the Battery to Brig.-Gen. Henry L. Abbott, commanding the First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, at his headquarters, Broadway Landing, Va., on the 19th day of November, 1864, and was instructed by him to disembark the Battery and encamp at City Point, Va., near the line of artillery defenses then nearly completed. On the 26th of November we were assigned to these defenses as the permanent garrison, and occupied Redoubts Nos. 2, 5, 7, and 8 of this line.

The Battery was divided into detachments under the command of lieutenants, as follows: Lieutenant Middlebrook was assigned to No. 2 on the right of the line, with a detachment of twenty-three men, and an armament of six 30-pounder Parrott guns; No. 5, near the railroad, was headquarters of the Battery. I was assisted here by Lieutenant Gilberts, who acted as adjutant of the command.

This redoubt was armed with eight 4 ½ inch siege guns, commanding the railroad and a wide range on either side. No. 7 was commanded by Lieutenant Beecher, with a detachment of twenty men and an equipment of six 30-pounder Parrott guns. No. 8 was under the command of Lieutenant Hayden, with a force of twenty men and an armament of six 4 ½ inch Rodman guns. The Battery was also provided with infantry muskets and equipments. These redoubts were very complete fortifications, connected by a line of infantry parapet, and furnished with excellent magazines and a full complement of ammunition.

All the officers, most of the non-commissioned officers, and many of the enlisted men of the Battery, had been in the service prior to this, and were, therefore, fairly instructed in soldierly duties and inured to the trials of the camp and field. A short time sufficed to familiarize ourselves with our surroundings and get into soldierly harmony with our work, so that although these separate garrisons were small, but within supporting distance, we sought to make them efficient as possible by learning to work together according to our best knowledge and ability.

We drilled constantly, and every man of the Battery was soon taught the special duty he would have to perform in any emergency.

The position to which we were assigned was of great honor and responsibility. These defenses protected the vast army stores at City Point, the hospitals, charitable commissions, and the headquarters of Lieut.-General Grant. Under the observant eyes of great chieftains and notables the Battery drilled and worked, keeping the redoubts neat and the personnel of the camp free from reproach.

To "be always ready," was the brief

instruction given us, and no pains were spared to obey the injunction. The men were instructed to manoeuvre the guns, to fix and prepare ammunition, taught soldierly deportment and conduct, instructed in the laws of health, and commanded to be alert and vigilant, quick to respond to any call, and occupy the place to which previous training had accustomed them. In this attitude the Battery watched and waited. When the rebel iron-clads attempted to force a passage by the batteries and obstructions in the James River, a section of the Battery, with four 4 1/2 inch siege guns, was stationed in front of General Grant's headquarters, covering the wharves and storehouses, ready for action. The attempt of the rebels did not succeed, and the battery was returned to the redoubts.

At the time of the grand advance of the army upon the rebel lines our works were strengthened by the addition of a section of light guns which could be readily moved along the line of breastworks that adjoined the redoubts, and the entire line was left wholly dependent upon the officers and men of our Battery. By day and by night, resting on our arms, we stood by our guns watching and waiting. The roar of battle was in our ears, its mortal wreckage drifted past us, and our veins beat in unison with the tempest. This was all. Lee surrendered; the war was finished. It had been ours to watch and to wait, to "be ready"; this was all.

We were soon ordered to work with a battalion of the First Connecticut Artillery, commanded by Major Brooker, of pleasant memory, in dismantling the rebel fortifications in the vicinity of Chapin's Bluff on the James River. There we worked, relieved from the strain of constant anxiety, and looking cheerfully forward to the hour

of release from the exacting duties of military life. On the 22d of June, 1865, I was directed by the commissary of musters, Department of Virginia, to prepare muster-out rolls of all the enlisted men of the Battery whose terms of service expired prior to October 1, 1865. These rolls contained the names of ninetythree (93) men, and were furnished on the 23d. With the exception of twenty-seven (27) men who were transferred to the First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, in accordance with instructions from the Department of War, the Battery was mustered out. A transport steamer took us to New York, and thence by boat we went to New Haven, Conn. We were met at the dock by the New Haven Grays, under command of Col. Samuel E. Merwin, and escorted in a drenching rain to the Union House, where a splendid feast awaited us, all of which "home cheer" was gratefully partaken.

On the 3d of July, 1865, the officers and men of the Battery were paid and the command disbanded. The Battery lost but one man by death during its period service, Corporal Beecher, who died from exposure a few days after our arrival at City Point. Only one man was severely injured, and that by accident — Private Hubbell — who was burned by the bursting of a buried shell in front of one of the rebel works.

The service of the Third Connecticut Independent Battery was all rendered in considerably less time than one year, but it witnessed the collapse of the Great Rebellion, and there were officers and men in the organization who had witnessed its advent, as an armed power, and now rejoiced to see its downfall.

Casualties Third C. V. Light Battery				
Accidentally Wounded	Died	Discharged for disability	Total	
1	3	2	6	

Attention Soldiers, Airmen and Families

The Connecticut Guardian wants your photos!

If you have photos you wish to share with the rest of our Guard family, we would like to publish them in the Guardian.

We are looking for photos of soldiers and airmen who are deployed either relaxing or working. We are looking for photos of families members at home or at play. We are looking for photos of families packing care packages to send to their loved ones.

We will print them in the Guardian as space allows so they can be seen and shared by Connecticut Soldiers, Airmen and families around the world.

Please e-mail your photos to ctguardian@ct.ngb.army.mil

Connecticut Military Department News

2ND Company Governor's Horse Guard to hold annual open house

2ND Lt. Robert Dahm 2ND Co., GHG Public Affairs Officer

The Second Company Governor's Horse Guard is pleased to announce its annual Open House on August 15th, 2004 from 10am to 2pm. The 2GHG Facilities are located across from the old Fairfield Hills Hospital in Newtown and will be open to the public. Lunch and refreshments will be available.

Guided tours of the barn will be offered. The Troop will be performing a mounted Cavalry Drill and a Musical Ride with Lances. There will also be horseback rides for children provided by members, as well as T-Shirts and Souvenirs for sale.

An outdoor historical museum display will be set up as well as a Recruitment tent for prospective new members who wish to learn more about the Troop and discover some of its important history as Cavalry in Connecticut.

The UCONN Mounted Vaulting team will also be on hand demonstrating their skill in performing gymnastics on horseback! The Second Horse has been serving the citizenry of Connecticut since 1808 and is one of the oldest Cavalry Units in continuous service in the United States.

The Troop currently has it's own "Special Needs" riding program, as well as a new program for disabled veterans and has rescued 4 Wild Mustangs, that are being trained along with 32 other horses in it's herd. All horses are donated with a tax deduction provided for donors, of accepted mounts. Mounted Patrols of state parks and forests in conjunction with the Connecticut Horse Council and the DEP are also new this year.

Maj. Janis Arena, Commandant and the entire Troop wish to extend an invitation to the public to come out and find out what the Horse Guard is all about.

Troopers will be available throughout the day ready to serve with whatever needs you may require. So take the opportunity to stop by and meet 2 GHG up close.

If you cannot attend this event, the public is always welcome to stop by on Thursday nights and visit us during our weekly drills, which begin about 7pm. The Second Horse remains as always "Ready to Serve." For more information call 203-426-9046.

Foot Guard awards scholarships to Hartford students

STAFF SGT. MICHAEL CONDON FIRST COMPANY GOVERNOR'S FOOT GUARD

Major Dennis Conroy, Commandant of the First Company Governor's Foot Guard, has announced that Michelle Borodec from Bulkeley High School, John Applewright from Hartford Public School, and Jason Clarke from Weaver High School were the recipients of the 2004 Foot Guard Scholarship.

The annual scholarship is awarded to college bound students based upon excellence in academics as determined by each high school guidance department.

Mr. Clarke and Ms. Borodec were presented their checks by Major Conroy on Monday June 28, 2004 during the Foot Guard's monthly battalion review.

Applewright will receive his award during his school's yearend ceremonies.

The First Company Governor's Foot Guard, established in 1771, is the oldest military organization in continuous existence in the United States.

Connecticut's National Guard & Militia Units

Present

Day 200

Come Home

Join us for a Welcome Home Celebration for all soldiers and airmen who were deployed around the world this past year

Saturday, September 11, 2004 10 a.m. Camp Rell, Niantic, Connecticut

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Homeland Security official selectively raise threat leading

SAMANTHA L. QUIGLEY AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

Homeland Security officials have raised the color-coded threat level to orange, or high, for parts of New York City, northern New Jersey, and Washington, D.C.

In an afternoon press conference Aug. 2 Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge cited "new and unusually specific information about where al Qaeda would like to attack," as the reason for the elevation.

The elevation of the threat level specifically targets the financialservice sectors of New York City, northern New Jersey and Washington, D.C. The rest of the country remains at a yellow, or elevated, state of alert.

By raising the threat level for these areas, protective resources can be brought their highest capacity in and around the buildings that are reportedly al Qaeda targets, Ridge said. Those specific targets are the Citigroup buildings and the New York Stock Exchange in New York City, Prudential Financial in northern New Jersey, and the International Monetary Fund and World Bank facilities in Washington.

Ridge said actions to further strengthen security around the buildings are already underway. Additionally, Homeland Security officials are working to get more information regarding any possible targets beyond those named.

"Compared to previous threat reporting, these intelligence reports have provided a level of detail that is very specific," Ridge said. "The quality of this intelligence, based on multiple reporting streams in multiple locations, is rarely seen and is alarming in both the amount and specificity of the information."

He also said that though the threats, which indicate a physical attack over a cyber attack, are specific in location, the time frame

is not firm beyond the period leading up to the national elections.

While Homeland Security experts are working with officials from the White House, FBI, CIA and other federal agencies, Ridge said, the governors and mayors of the affected areas also have been brought into the loop.

Security measures are being tailored to each specific building with the help of the executive leadership of the companies that own and operate the buildings.

"Understandably, security measures at each facility will not be uniform in nature, given the scope and scale of the building architecture, access to and from roads, and other variables," Ridge said. "Certainly, we will not broadcast our intentions to the enemy."

Buffer zones to secure building perimeters from unauthorized vehicles, restricting access to underground parking, and tighter screening of personnel entering and exiting the buildings are a few of the measures being taken in light of the new information. Ridge said these measures, seen and unseen, add layers of protection to an already vigorous security effort across the country.

The secretary said the kind of information that led to the elevation of the threat level comes from offensive intelligence and military operations overseas and strong partnerships with world allies.

"The terrorists should know, in this country, this kind of information, while startling, is not stifling," Ridge said. "Al Qaeda wants to intimidate us and prevent us from enjoying our freedoms. And yet, liberty has no greater protector than the collective will of the American people. So, together let us take inspiration from this strength, and use it to our utmost to keep our great nation safe and free."

With many symbolic events and large gatherings — including the Democratic and Republican national conventions — this summer, security has been ramped up to unprecedented levels, officials have said.



Staff Sgt. Maksymililan Keska and Sgt. Ben Major patrol the train platform at the New Haven Train Station after an elevated terror alert was issued for New York, New Jersey and Washington, D.C. (Photo by Sgt. Patrick Clark, 65th PCH)





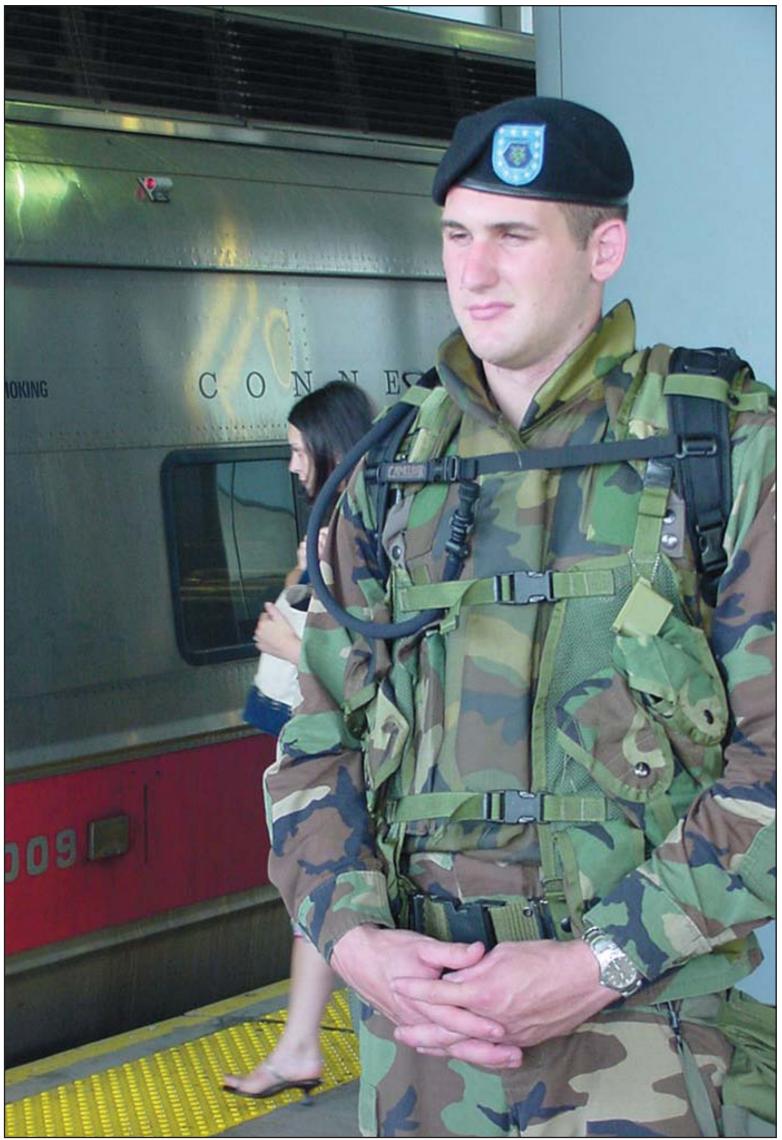
Pfc. Anthony Jusseaume and Spc. Allahna Torres s Stamford Train Station. (Photo by Spc. Jesse J. Sta

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tand guard on the train platform at the nley, 65th PCH)



Pfc. Anthony Jusseaume stands guard on the train platform at the Stamford Train Station. (Photo by Spc. Jesse J. Stanley, 65th PCH)

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Social Security FAQ on a weekend drill

Social Security marks 69th anniversary in August

Col. Gary Ottenbreit, (J6) Directorate and Robert G. Rodriguez, Public Affairs Social Security

What was the most important thing that happened in 1935?

The invention of nylon ... the sale of the first Monopoly game ... the birth of Elvis Presley?

Maybe Babe Ruth hitting his last career home run?

While all were memorable events in our popular culture, one could make a good argument that the most important thing to happen in 1935 was the signing into law of the original Social Security Act on August 14 of that year.

When the Social Security Act was passed, the country was in the midst of the Great Depression.

Millions of Americans were unemployed, and older Americans without jobs or resources had to depend upon their family or neighbors just to get by.

Social Security changed all of that and was,

as President George W. Bush has said, "one of the greatest achievements of the American government."

Over the past 69 years, Social Security has become an indelible part of American life ... a foundation of retirement income upon which individuals can build a comfortable retirement.

For (most) older Americans, Social Security is their major source of income. Nine of ten individuals age 65 and older receive Social Security benefits.

For about two-thirds of them, Social Security represents half or more of their income.

Social Security also provides more than just retirement benefits.

While about 70 percent of workers have no long-term disability insurance, about ninety percent of workers and their families do have Social Security protection in the event of a long-term disability.

Also, an estimated 97 percent of young children and their mothers and fathers are insured for survivors benefits through Social Security.

Not bad for a program that traces its beginnings back to the days of Babe Ruth and the first Monopoly game.

And, if you have the chance over the next month, we invite everyone to take a

few moments to look back at the beginnings of Social Security by visiting our Internet "history page" at www.socialsecurity.gov/history/history.html





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Officers Club of Connecticut

The Club will be closed during August for annual maintenance and vacations.

It will be open from Aug. 10-12 for special events and will serve a light lunch menu and remain open later for beverages.

The Club will reopen with regular hours on Sept.1

Don't forget "the Producers" on Sept. 4 at the Club and Bushnell.

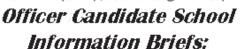
Also the annual Beefeaters Night will be held on Sept. 17 with dancing to the music of Higher Ground

To book a party or event, call (860) 249-3624



1st Battalion (OCS), 169th Regiment (LDR)

Officer Candidate School







DATES

1LT Shaun O'Dea (860) 691-4216 shaun.odea@ct.ngb.army.mil



Location: BLDG 402 Leadership Hall Camp Rell Niantic, CT

Bring a Friend, Spouse or Significant Other. Information Brief will be in Building 402, Leadership Hall, beginning at 1000 hours. Uniform is BDU on duty, Givilian all others

Procedures for R&R leave retroactive reimbursement claims

1. General

Payment of onward travel airline costs for R&R Leave Program participants was approved 19 Dec 03. Authorization was granted 21 Jun 04 to implement retroactive reimbursement for onward movement airline travel.

- a. Eligible personnel are military members who participated in the USCENTCOM R&R Leave Program during the period 25 Sep-18 Dec 03 whose airline tickets from the APOD to their final leave destination were paid for by the R&R participants themselves, family members, or other private individuals.
- b. To claim retroactive reimbursement, eligible personnel must submit documentation as indicated below. All R&R Leave participants are reminded to maintain copies of documents associated with R&R Leave for future actions that may require such documentation.

2. Required documentation.

- a. Participants must present the following documents. The claims process will be much smoother if all substantiating documents are submitted.
- (1) DD Form 1351-2, Travel Voucher, <u>must</u> be submitted to file a claim for reimbursement.
- (2) Copy of leave documentation containing fund cite (Army: DA Form 31 or R&R leave order; USAF: AF Form 988)
- (3) Airline ticket receipt (that shows who paid for ticket).
- (4) A statement certifying travel. The statement must contain name, SSN, dates of travel, airline used, destination airport, and cost of ticket. A blank statement is enclosed with this announcement.
- b. If available, submit a copy of the airline ticket and/or travel itinerary. Inclusion of these documents may speed processing of your claim.

3. Lost Documentation.

a. Personnel who no longer have airline ticket receipts must contact the airline flown for replacement receipts. If the airline is unable to assist, participants must contact Al-Shamel, the ticket agent within the CENTCOM theater of operations, to obtain copies of receipts. To contact Al-Shamel, call 011-965-243-3900, or send written requests to the following address:

Shuhada Str. Cement House Bldg. Sharq – Kuwait

b. For other missing documentation,

contact DFAS at the e-mail address in para 4 below.

4. Where to submit your claim. DFAS-IN

Contingency Travel Operations Department 3900 ATTN: R&R Leave 8899 East 56th Street Indianapolis, IN 46249-3900 All personnel should allow at least four weeks for their claim to be processed and paid. Resolution could take longer if DFAS requires additional information or documentation. Personnel who have questions should e-mail DFAS at: <u>DFAS-INR&RLEAVE@DFAS.MIL</u>.

REIMBURSEMEN	T STATEM	ENT FORM	
1. l,		rst, MI, last],	Rank [if applicable], SSN
responsibility in su	pport of Op	eration Endu	deployed in the CENTCOM area of iring Freedom/Iraqi Freedom. The following m for reimbursement of airline travel costs.
Leave Dates	Airline	APOD*	Destination Airport Amount Paid
			ons of U.S. Code, Title 18, Sections 287 and tting fraudulent claims.
Signature	en escon wanted in the color of the entity	11 (Date

*APODs: Baltimore-Washington International Airport – BWI Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport – DFW Hartsfield Jackson International Airport, Atlanta – ATL Rhein Main Air Base, Germany – GER



Visit the

Connecticut Guardian

on-line at www.ct.ngb.army.mil



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Military Matters



AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

National Guard and reserve members who paid their medical and dental bills and saved their receipts may now seek reimbursement from Tricare, officials of the military health care system announced July 23.

Officials said the system will begin processing medical and dental claims for Guard and Reserve members who meet certain eligibility requirements.

Only guardsmen and reservists issued "delayed-effective-date active-duty orders" for more than 30 days in support of a contingency operation, and their families, may be eligible to have medical claims reimbursed.

And according to Tricare, only those medical expenses incurred during the military member's "early eligibility" period — up to 60 days prior to reporting to active duty — from Nov. 6, 2003, to the present are eligible for reimbursement.

Reserve, Guard can seek reimbursement of medical, dental claims

This temporary entitlement is part of the Defense Department's 2004 Temporary Reserve Health Benefit Program, which sought to enhance benefits for Guard and reserve members called to active duty.

Normally, under Tricare guidelines, Reserve and Guard members cannot be enrolled into Tricare until they reach their final duty location. The temporary entitlement gives them access upon receipt of activation orders, up to 60 days in advance.

Last year, President Bush signed legislation authorizing three new temporary provisions for guardsmen and reservists and their families that provided enhanced access to for a limited time during contingency activation. The provisions were made retroactive to Nov. 6,2003.

A second provision temporarily extended eligibility for Tricare benefits to 180 days for those guardsmen and reservists who separated from active duty status during the period Nov. 6, 2003, through Dec. 31, 2004.

The third provision extends Tricare medical benefits to reserve-component sponsors and family members who are either unemployed or employed but not eligible for employer-provided health coverage.

All temporary provisions will end on Dec. 31,2004.

However, the measure did include three provisions for permanent health benefits: making benefit counselors available for Guard and Reserve members in each Tricare region, authorizing medical and dental screening and care for members alerted for mobilization, and providing Tricare eligibility for reserve officers pending orders to active duty following commissioning.

Guardsmen, reservists and their family members must be registered in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System and be Tricare eligible to qualify for the temporary benefit.

In order to apply for reimbursement, eligible members must submit a Tricare

(CHAMPUS) claim form, a copy of their itemized bill, an explanation of benefits, and proof of payment (if the bill was already paid) to their regional Tricare claims processor.

Claims processing instructions and a downloadable Tricare claims form, DD Form 2642, are available at local Tricare service centers or from Tricare regional contractors, or may be downloaded from the Tricare Web site.

Connecticut Guardsmen should contact any of the following with questions or for assistance: Chief Warrant Officer 2 William Cusack at william.cusack@ct.ngb.army.mil; First Lt. Edward Kelley at edward.kelley@ct.ngb.army.mil; Staff Sgt. Charles Rowland at charles.rowland@ct.ngb.army.mil; or Spc. Jordan Werme at jordan.werme@ct.ngb.army.mil

(Based on a Tricare Activity release.)

Education Essentials: Some extended Guardsmen, Reservists may get GI Bill boost

RUDI WILLIAMS
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

Guardsmen and reservists whose active duty time is extended past the normal 12-month call-up may be eligible for active duty-level benefits of the Montgomery GI Bill under certain circumstances, according to a senior Department of Veterans Affairs spokesman.

Currently, members participating in the active duty GI Bill receive \$800 or \$985 per month for full-time training, depending on their length of service.

But reserve-component members receive only \$282 per month for full-time training, said Dennis Douglass, VA deputy director for education service.

Reserve-component personnel are now eligible for the greater active-duty benefit when their active-duty time is extended to 24 or more months, Douglas noted.

Douglass said the Montgomery GI Bill historically has been broken into two segments: the Montgomery GI Bill for active duty and the Montgomery GI Bill – Selected Reserve, for the reserve components.

The Selected Reserve GI Bill is for members of the Selected Reserve of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard and the Army and Air National Guard. It provides education and training opportunities for eligible service members who have completed high school.

"The active-duty bill is a program designed for those who enlist in active military service for a period of two-plus years," Douglass noted. "If they only serve two years, they get a lesser benefit than an individual who signs up for three or more years."

He said the authors of the two GI Bill programs never imagined that reservists and Guardsmen would be called up to active duty for extended periods of time as they have been in Operation Iraqi Freedom. "I don't think that was envisioned in the original legislation," he added.

The Chapter 30 program, or the GI Bill program for active-duty service members and veterans, is currently paying \$800 per month for full-time training for those who serve two years. Those who serve three years or more receive \$985 per month.

Douglass pointed out the \$282 reservecomponent members get per month is a "dramatic difference" in the level of benefits.

"Another interesting difference in the two programs is that in the Selective Reserve program, eligibility starts when the military tells us to start it,"

Douglas noted.

High school graduates are eligible for benefits after they've completed their initial period of active duty for training and have been assigned to a reserve or Guard component, he explained. Eligibility for activeduty people, however, doesn't begin until after they've served for two years.

"They actually have to be on active duty for two years before they can avail themselves the use of the benefit," Douglass noted. "For the most part, they don't even start using it then; they wait until they become veterans to use it."

Douglass noted that reserve-component call-ups have been averaging nine to 12 months. He said it would be "a disservice" to Guardsmen and reservists to take their \$100 per month for the GI Bill, as is done for active-duty personnel.

"That's because at nine or 12 months, they have no hope of being eligible for the greater benefit of the (active-duty) Montgomery GI Bill."

However, Douglass said, some individuals have been activated for an initial period of 12 months and then extended for another 12 months. The Defense Department and the services are offering those individuals participation in the Montgomery GI Bill.

"(The military) would begin to deduct \$100 per month from the service members' pay, just as they do for active-duty service members," he said. Upon release from active duty, those individuals would become eligible for the greater benefit, he added, assuming they'd completed their 24 months of active duty.

To be eligible for the same benefits active-

duty personnel get, Guardsmen and reservists must have served for 24 months without a break in service.

"So, if they serve nine months, go home for awhile, and then serve another 15 months, they can't add them together to come up with 24 months," Douglass noted.

But Senate Bill S-2099, if it becomes law, would make Guardsmen and reservists eligible for the active-duty Montgomery GI Bill if they serve 24 months on active duty in any five-year period, he noted.

An estimated 15,000 to 18,000 Guardsmen and reservists have been called to active duty and stayed active for a period of two years or longer, he said.

Douglass also touched on the Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program, an education benefit for spouses and children of seriously disabled or deceased veterans whose death or disability was service-connected. Douglass noted length of service has no bearing on this benefit.

Normally, Montgomery GI Bill benefits are not available to spouses and children of healthy veterans who contributed to the Montgomery GI Bill, but didn't use the benefits. The Air Force tested such a program as a retention tool for a limited time in 2003, but has since discontinued it, Douglass said.



COMMAND SGT. MAJ.
RAYMOND P. ZASTAURY

Enlisted Update *Oath of Enlistment*

I, State Your Full Name, do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the State of

Connecticut against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the Governor of Connecticut and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to law and regulations. So help me God.

This is the oath of enlistment members of the Connecticut National Guard both Army and Air take when they join our organization. The Oath of Enlistment is the first and a very significant event in every military person's life. It is especially important because of the deployments our Soldiers and Airmen experienced during the initial phase of the Global War on Terrorism and the role our organization continues to mobilize and deploy.

During my travels while observing the preparation of units getting ready to mobilize I have talked to many Soldiers that accept the mission and are ready to step up to the plate to perform their duty. I have also heard some Soldiers say they are unwilling to deploy and mobilize. Remember by virtue of every Soldier's and Airmen's Oath of Enlistment that is not an option. I encourage all current members that have second thoughts about their commitment and their duty to go back and look at your Oath of Enlistment Contract (DD Form 4-1 and 4-2) both front and back

The first question I ask all our new Soldiers attending the Basic Training Orientation Course (BTOC) after I introduce myself as the State Command Sergeant Major is: "How many of you have been drafted?"

Naturally none of our new Soldiers can raise their hands and answer they were drafted. I let each and every one of them know that they volunteered to join the Connecticut Army National Guard. Then I inform them all that sometime during the next six years of their enlistment they will deploy somewhere in the world. All of our Soldiers and Airmen must realize that deployment is now a reality in the Guard and the Reserve. Full Time AGR, Technicians and Traditional Soldiers and Airmen need to get their affairs in order to prepare themselves for Mobilization. This includes making sure each Soldier and Airmen have Family Care Plans (when required) and must have their dental, medical and legal affairs in order.

If you are a member of the Guard and believe your only commitment is one weekend a month and fifteen days a year,

you had better reevaluate your status as a member. Everyone that puts on the uniform needs to understand that when the President or the Governor calls us up, we have the obligation to report for duty as well trained and motivated Soldiers and Airmen. And I say to you that once a Soldier or Airmen achieves the rank of NCO you lose your right to complain. Concentrate on being part of the solution and not a part of the problem. All junior enlisted Soldiers and Airmen must demand and truly deserve professional, proficient and caring leadership.

It is up to all the leaders in our organization to prepare our Soldiers and Airmen for deployments that will surely come in each member's future. Several months ago I told all the senior leaders both Army and Air and the Recruiting and Retention Command members that if they did not have the desire and the passion to care for and train the newest members of our organization that they should retire.

I personally cannot condone or accept negative, apathetic or unprofessional leaders. Good leaders must ensure Soldiers and Airmen receive the best possible individual skill training and collective training to prepare for deployments into a Combat Area of Operation. The standards are established and must be met and maintained and cannot be compromised.

Every leader has the responsibility to ensure all our Soldiers and Airmen return from deployment safe and sound. Leaders must CARE enough to make sure Soldiers and Airmen and their families are prepared for lengthy deployments such as Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. OPTEMPO is going to be around for a many years. Be prepared and stay prepared. It is too late to start to take training serious after your unit is mobilized.

We are currently preparing more Army Guard units to deploy in the very near future. I would like to ensure those Soldiers that the senior leadership will take care of your families while you are away. We are truly aware of the hardships families face when their loved ones are deployed. Over the past two years, during the deployments of our Soldiers and Airmen, the Connecticut National Guard Family Program and the Adjutant General's Staff have become professionals in taking care of families while their Soldiers and Airmen are away from home. This is a necessary and important mission to allow our Soldiers and Airmen to concentrate on the mission and not worry about things

Again I ask everyone to keep all our deployed Soldiers and Airmen and their families in your every day thoughts and prayers.

Guard Voices

Secretary of Defense message to troops on why we fight in Iraq

ore than 15 months ago, a global coalition ended the brutal regime of Saddam Hussein and liberated the people of Iraq.

As in all conflicts, this has come at a cost in lives. Some of your comrades made the ultimate sacrifice. For your sacrifices, our country and the President are deeply grateful.

In a free, democratic country we have vigorous debates over important public policy issues – none more heated than a decision to go to war. But this should not distract us from the mission at hand or lessen the magnitude of your accomplishments.

The threat we face must be confronted. And you are doing so exceedingly well. Indeed it has been an historic demonstration of skill and military power.

On September 11, 3,000 citizens were killed by extremists determined to frighten and intimidate our people and civilized societies. The future danger is that, if the extremists gain the potential, the number of casualties would be far higher. Terrorists are continuing to plot attacks against the American people and against other civilized societies. This is a different kind of enemy and a different kind of world. And we must think and act differently in this new century.

These extremists think nothing of cutting off innocent people's heads to try to intimidate great nations. They have murdered citizens from many countries – South Korea, Japan, Spain, the United Kingdom and others – hoping to strike fear in the hearts of free people.

Theirs is an ideology of oppression and subjugation of women. They seek to create radical systems that impose their views on others. And they will accept no armistice with those who choose free systems.

They see the governments of the Middle East, the United States and our stalwart allies all as targets.

Consider the background. In the span of

20 years, Hussein's Iraq invaded two neighbors, Iran and Kuwait, and launched ballistic missiles at two more. He employed poison gas against soldiers in Iran and against Kurdish villagers in his own country.

The United Nations and the U.S. Congress shared the view that Saddam's regime was a threat to the region and the world. Indeed, in 1998, our Congress passed a resolution calling for the removal of the regime. And over the years the U.N. passed 17 resolutions condemning Saddam's regime and calling on him to tell the UN about his weapons programs. He ignored every one.

Information gathered since the defeat of Saddam's regime last year confirms that his last declaration to the United Nations about his weapons programs was falsified. The U.N. resolutions had called for "serious consequences" should Saddam not comply. He did not.

The President issued a final ultimatum to Saddam to relinquish power to avoid war. Saddam chose war instead.

By your skill and courage, you have put a brutal dictator in the dock to be tried by the Iraqi people and restored freedom to 25 million people. By helping to repair infrastructure, rebuild schools, encourage democratic institutions and delivering educational and medical supplies, you have shown America's true character and given Iraq a chance at a new start.

But most importantly, your fight – and ultimate victory – against the forces of terror and extremism in Iraq and the Middle East will have made America safer and more secure.

You are accomplishing something noble and historic – and future generations of Americans will remember and thank you for it.

DONALD H. RUMSFELD
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Send Letters to the Editor to:

Editor, Connecticut Guardian, National Guard Armory, 360 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06105-3795

or by email to: ctguardian@ct.ngb.army.mil

All letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification.

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Homefront

In defense of Connecticut's children: Central 'N the Hood

STAFF SGT. CHRISTINE JELTEMA DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION, STAFF WRITER

Imagine being 12 years old, not old enough for high school, but hanging out on a college campus. Not only did the students of Central 'N the Hood, from various areas of New Britain, able to see a college campus, they were able to attend college classes.

This year marked the third annual Central 'N the Hood Camp at Central Connecticut State University.

New Britain Police Department, Connecticut Weed and Seed and The Connecticut National Guard Drug Demand Reduction Program along with a representative from CCSU put together the camp to show New Britain's youth that by staying

in school, by working hard and staying drug free, they are able to continue with higher education.

Central 'N the Hood is a week long camp where students arrived early and left exhausted with knowledge.

Camp started early on June 28 with



morning chow in CCSU's fine dining establishment, the students continued on to different college classes and workshops.

They learned about computer design and then were able to create their own web page on CCSU's very own MAC computers.

The student's emphasized their most

favorite class which happened to be the biology class they attended. Not only was it a biology class, it was Introduction to Forensics.

During the class, the students looked into a microscope of different types of DNA, fingerprints and cells. The point of the class

was a mock murder scene, one of the students was the murderer and the students had to determine who it was.

They had other classes like cooking, Introduction to Communications, and a technology class.

The students also had workshops from New Britain Police Department K-9 unit and a Drunk Driving workshop where they students were able to put on fatal vision goggles that allowed them to feel what it was like to drink and drive.

After a full week of campus food, college classes and a lot of fun, the students received a certificate of achievement on the morning of July 2nd. Then all 34 students loaded onto

a bus to spend the rest of their day at Lake Compounce.

If you would like to be connected with one of the many organizations or programs that the Connecticut National Guard Drug Demand Program has to offer please call Capt. Anne-Marie Garcia 860-493-2724.

New personnel system to add efficiency, satisfaction

DONNA MILES
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

The new National Security Personnel System will improve the working environment within the Defense Department while creating a more satisfied, more productive workforce, Navy Secretary Gordon England said at a town hall meeting in early July.

"That's what this is about: great job satisfaction," England told his audience of Pentagon workers and Web and Pentagon Channel viewers.

"We want everybody to go home every night and brag about the great job they accomplished that day. That is what we are trying to accomplish."

Congress authorized the new personnel system as part of the fiscal 2004 National Defense Authorization Act. It will introduce sweeping changes to the way the department hires, pays, promotes, disciplines and fires its 700,000 civilian workers, doing away with antiquated practices England said have bogged down the department for decades.

For example, the new system will consolidate nine separate personnel systems that now govern DoD civilian workers.

England said streamlining these systems

into one "will make it easier to manage and certainly better for our employees."

Responding to questions from the Pentagon audience and emails from as far away as Hawaii, England explained that the system will include faster procedures for hiring new workers, pay based on performance rather than tenure and "pay bands" to replace the current general-service pay scale.

Details of the new system are still being worked out, said England, who was tapped by Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld earlier this year to put NSPS into place.

He added that valuable input has come from a variety of pilot projects, which he called "learning exercises to make sure we've got it right before we start."

By the year's end, England said he expects to publish in the Federal Register proposed regulations for the new civilian human resources, labor-management relations and employee appeals and grievance systems.

The first DoD civilians are expected to come under the new system in summer 2005, and DoD will phase in the system for the next three years, through late 2008, England said.

Despite these projected timetables, England stressed that the implementation will be "event-driven, not time-driven. "When we are ready we will do it, and not before," he said.

In the meantime, England said DoD is seeking input from all corners to make sure it comes up with the best civilian personnel system possible.

"It's a collaborative process, it's not negotiating to an answer," he said. "It is getting input from literally thousands of people around the country and around the world so we can understand their views."

He acknowledged that putting the new system into place while continuing DoD's mission will be a bit of a challenge.

"It's a little like maintaining an airplane while it's flying," he said. "The process has to be thoughtful and reasonably measured."

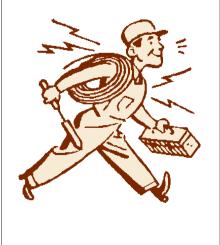
He said the new system, when fully in place, will benefit employees while making the department better able to respond to the challenges ahead, including the terrorism threat.

"The whole premise is to have a highly effective workforce ... that dearly loves to work for the Department of Defense, is well-trained and highly competitive," England noted.

The result, he said, will be "a system that best represents our most valuable asset: our people."

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Sports

Deployments show lifestyle of fitness pays off

MASTER SGT. BOB HASKELL, USA SPECIAL TO AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

Qatar is not as hellishly hot in November and December as it is in July and August. But the 80- to 90-degree days and the 40-degree nights in that small desert land between Saudi Arabia and the Persian Gulf can raise havoc with people who are not physically fit.

That is a lesson that some members of the New York Air National Guard out of upstate Syracuse learned for themselves in Qatar during the last two months of 2003, said Col. (Dr.) Reid Muller, commander of the 174th Fighter Wing's medical group. He is also a practicing cardiologist.

"There was a period of adjustment, and it would have been a little easier for some of the people if they had been paying better attention to their physical fitness," recalled Muller, who appears to be superbly conditioned himself and staunchly advocates the Air National Guard's new fitness program.

Muller helped prepare the program that Col. Sylvia Nye is administering for this country's 108,000 Air Guard members. Nye is a nurse and fitness advocate who maintains that good physical fitness enhances people's overall health and quality of life.

That is the long-range benefit of the program that the Air Guard started last year. It focuses on five areas: body composition, cardiorespiratory, flexibility, muscular strength, and endurance, explained Nye in mid-May during the Air Guard's Readiness Frontiers Medical Conference high in the Colorado Rockies.

"This isn't just about taking an annual physical fitness test," Nye said. "This is about

enhancing our Guard members' lifestyles. We can help people who do not do well in the tests improve their diets and exercise programs so they will feel better about themselves and perform better in their everyday activities, thus improving their test scores."

The more pressing objective, however, is to improve the physical fitness of Air Guard personnel who are being deployed, sometimes on short notice, to harsh terrain during the global war against terrorism.

"Physical fitness is a command program, because commanders need to know the fitness of their people as well as their airplanes and other equipment," Nye said.

"We have to become a more fit force. We are deploying to rugged and remote areas," said Col. (Dr.) Randall Falk, the National

Guard Bureau's air surgeon, who is Nye's boss. "We're serving under austere conditions. We're not going just to Ramstein Air Base in Germany or to Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland, (which) have all of the creature comforts, advanced medical support and neighborhood pharmacies. A fit force suffers fewer occupational injuries and illnesses."

That message has come from the top. Air Force chief of staff Gen. John P. Jumper is emphasizing improved fitness for all Air Force personnel in the active and reserve components, Nye explained, so they are ready to deploy.

That has led to a standard physical fitness test for people in the active, Guard and Reserve forces, Nye added, as well as the idea that everyone develop a workout schedule for at least three times each week.

The test includes running or a threeminute step test, abdominal circumference measurements, push-ups, sit-ups and stretching, Nye explained. The Air Guard goes a step further, she said. It's called the Fitnessage Program. It is a way of determining how each member's fitness scores compare with their chronological ages.

The average age for the 67,000 people tested last year was 36, Nye said. The average fitness age was also 36, she added. That is a pretty good sign that, overall, Air Guard people are in pretty good physical condition, she said. But fitness is a personal matter, and some people are in considerably better shape than others, she added.

Those who are not physically fit may find the adjustment considerably harder in hot or cold or high-altitude environments than those who are, Nye and Muller indicated.

"If you want to thrive and make your life a lot more enjoyable, it's better to be in shape and stay in shape," Muller said. "There is no excuse for not being fit. If you are not in shape, you will be mission-ineffective."

(Army Master Sgt. Bob Haskell is assigned to the National Guard Bureau, Arlington, Va.)



For deploymentrelated questions call 1-800-858-2677 PAGE 22 AUGUST 2004 CONNECTICUT GUARDIAN

Guarding Your Rights

Legal Affairs: Wear and appearance of the uniform information and regulations

CAPT. TIMOTHY TOMCHO JAG OFFICE

Many Soldiers contact the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate (OSJA) for advice pertaining to the their appearance and the proper "wearing of the uniform." Uniform questions are best directed to the "J-1," the proponent for Army Regulation (AR) 670-1, "Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia."

Nevertheless, OSJA will provide guidance on such matters. AR 670-1 prescribes the authorization for wear, composition, and classification of uniforms, and the occasions for wearing all personal (clothing bag issue), optional, and commonly worn organizational Army uniforms. It also prescribes the awards, insignia, and accouterments authorized for wear on the uniform, and how these items are worn. General information is also provided on the authorized material, design, and uniform quality control system.

Although not a question typically thought of as a legal matter, many Soldiers seek "legal advice" about mustache appearance. AR 670-1, paragraph 1-8(a) (2) (c) states:

Males will keep their face clean-shaven when in uniform or in civilian clothes on duty. Mustaches are permitted; if worn, males will keep mustaches neatly trimmed, tapered, and tidy. Mustaches will not present a chopped off or bushy appearance, and no portion of the mustache will cover the upper lip line or extend sideways beyond a vertical line drawn upward from the corners of the mouth. Handlebar mustaches, goatees and beards are not authorized.

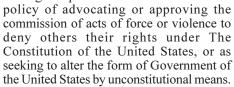
Many Soldiers seek advice on when the wear of the uniform is permitted. To answer such question, it is best to focus on when it is impermissible to wear the uniform. Department of Defense Directive 1334.1, dated May 17, 2004, states:

The wearing of the uniform by members of the Armed Forces (including retired members and members of Reserve components) is prohibited under any of the following circumstances:

· At any meeting or demonstration that is a function of, or sponsored by an organization, association, movement, group, or combination of persons that the

Attorney General of the United States has designated, under Executive Order 10450, as

amended, as totalitarian, fascist, communist, or subversive, or as having adopted a



- During or in connection with the furtherance of political activities, private employment or commercial interests, when an inference of official sponsorship for the activity or interest may be drawn.
- · Except when authorized by competent Service authority, when participating in activities such as public speeches, interviews, picket lines, marches, rallies or any public demonstration (including those pertaining to civil rights), which may imply Service sanction of the cause for which the demonstration or activity is conducted.
- · When wearing of the uniform would tend to bring discredit upon the Armed Forces.
- · When specifically prohibited by Service regulations.





WILLIAM CUSACK PRESIDENT

NGACT:

Working

for you

It's that time of year again! It's time for the National Guard Association of the United States, (NGAUS), Annual Conference.

I want to take this opportunity to invite and strongly encourage all NGAUS Members to attend. NGAUS is the lobbying arm of the National Guard, both Army and Air, to Congress. NGAUS lobbies on our behalf to secure better resources in force structure and equipment. NGAUS has been known to work with the Enlisted Association of the United States, (EANGUS), with quality of life issues such as pay and health benefits.

I am proud to say that this year the National EANGUS Conference will have the largest Connecticut Contingent, EVER, in attendance.

I can't stress enough the importance of these two organizations, especially in today's ever increasing OPTMPO environment. Better equipment, force structure, pay, incentives, and health care coverage are paramount to retaining and training the best Army and Air Guard in the world today.

These organizations are the only vehicles we have to represent us in Congress. Attendance at these conferences not only shows support for these organizations. Attendance at these conferences is the only venue we have to express our concerns and get our issues to the forefront of national attention.

This year, the NGAUS conference is being held in Las Vegas, 13-16 September 2004. Rooms have been block reserved at the Hilton and a good time is guaranteed! Attendees are responsible for booking their own travel. For registration and lodging details, please contact Capt. Charles Jaworski at (860) 883-4513.



Salute to America's Employers

RONALD E. LEE, FIRST SGT. USAR (RET.) CT-ESGR PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHAIRMAN

During this time of unprecedented mobilizations of the brave men and women who serve in the Guard and Reserve, we must do everything possible to promote an understanding of Guard and Reserve service, enlist support of employers in development of human resource policies, disseminate information to improve knowledge of, and voluntary compliance with, the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), and sustain the willingness of employers to support their employees called to military service.

The 2004 ESGR National Employer Outreach Program / America's Car Tour will help us to accomplish these tasks through strategic partnerships with business organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce and with NASCAR. A series of whistle-stop breakfast forums through the 48 contiguous states, 15 leadership forums in major metropolitan areas, and participation in five NASCAR races will bring together thousands of employers. A concurrent media blitz will spread the message of employer support throughout the country.

America's Car will be a key component of the Saluting America's Employer Program. This is an authentic NASCAR car, configured for racing, complete with driver safety equipment and a 700 HP engine. The purpose is for the car to become a messenger for all Americans, to recognize and thank employers for supporting their employees who serve in the Guard and Reserve. This show car will be at each forum and leadership symposium to bring to light the ongoing need for the American public to continue the patriotic support needed for the men and women who serve in the Armed Forces. Each day the total number of Guard and Reservists who have been mobilized to Active Duty Service since Sept. 11, 2001, will be displayed on the hood of "America's Car" (i.e. 354,804).

America's Car will visit Connecticut on Aug. 23-25, 2004 along with the large banner that will be displayed at each location to give the local community an opportunity to show their support for the deployed troops by signing their name and hometown as a statement of their continued support. The goal is to gather 1.2 million signatures, one for every member of the Guard and Reserve, from across America. These banners will then be put on display in a

prominent place, such as troop recreation centers in Iraq, Afghanistan, and across the United States.

The "Salute to America's Employers" America's Car and banner will be on at the 2004 Buick Open Golf Championship at the Tournament Players Club (TPC) at River Highlands in Cromwell, Conn. on both Monday, Aug. 23, and Tuesday, Aug. 24 from 8:00AM-4:00 PM during which time visitors may sign the banner and employers may sign a Statement of Support. Monday is the day of the opening ceremony and Tuesday is "Family Day" with children admitted free. Monday's ceremony opens with a color guard consisting of members of the National Guard and Reserve Components and will be attended by numerous local dignitaries. Tuesday includes the Celebrity Long Drive Competition, a Disney stage performance and practice rounds by some of the pro golfers who will be playing in the tournament.

On Wednesday, Aug. 25, the car and banner will be at the Old State House in Hartford from approximately 10:00 AM till 2:00 PM with a reception for invited employers and guests in the Court Room of the Old State House. We may possibly be able to display the car and banner that evening at ESPN in Bristol for a kick-off meeting of the Hartford Magazine. Please check our website, www.ctesgr.com or www.ctesgr@snet.net for further information concerning these events.

Hopefully you, your family and friends and your employer/supervisor will be able to attend one or all of these events.

In closing, we remind you that the mission of the Connecticut Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (CT-ESGR) is to gain and maintain active support from all public and private employers for the men and women of the National Guard and Reserve as defined by demonstrated employer commitment to employee military service. Employers are encouraged to earn Five Star Recognition through support of the men and women now serving proudly in America's National Guard and Armed Forces Reserve. CT-ESGR will work with your employer to show them how they can obtain Five Star Recognition and to provide them with assistance and guidance in keeping you on the job and in the ranks. Please pass this information along to your employer and suggest that they attend one or more of the upcoming "Salute to America's Employers" events and sign a Statement of Support.

Upcoming NGACT Events

Aug. 21-25
EANGUS National Conference

Sept. 3
Annual Golf Tournament

Louisville, KY

Sept. 13-16 NGAUS Annual Conference Las Vegas, NV

Oct. 8
VIP Breakfast Reception
O'Club
(By invitation only)

Inside OCS

OCS Class 50 begins training in a new era for the National Guard

OC JOHN ROSSI CLASS 50

At the beginning of Class 50's Officer Candidate School (OCS) experience it was emphasized by leadership that our training would be more rigorous because of the demands placed on the Guard for combat duty during the War on Terror.

The likelihood of newly trained second lieutenants being deployed into combat situations has greatly increased since the events of September 11th.

This has forced OCS to produce graduates ready for battle to accommodate the Guard's deployment obligations.

As a consequence, each candidate now must accept the reality of leading troops into battle shortly after the completion of their training and this mindset has given Class 50 extra will power and drive to succeed.

During the first three months of training, known as Phase 0, Class 50 has been well prepared and mentored by the outgoing OCS Class 49 and the 169th Leadership Regiment Teach Advise Counsel (TAC) staff for Phase I ATD training.

During Phase 0, in addition to the physical training, Class 50 has received thorough instruction in preparing operations orders, staff briefings, map reading, land navigation leading drill and ceremony procedures, troop movement and OCS protocols.

Each member of the class has assumed staff positions to learn and perform the responsibilities associated with operating and leading a unit.

The main focus that leadership and Class 49 have impressed upon the candidates of Class 50 is the importance of working as a

team. Over the course of these three IDT periods, Class 50, through guidance from the TAC staff, has gradually learned the necessity of attacking each objective and training mission as a team.

It is normal for each class to begin training as a group of individuals but it is the speed at which a class learns to complete their assigned tasks as a team that is the best measure of their learning.

In this new age of National Guard service, Class 50 draws its strength from the dedication and honor from the leaders and teachers that have gone before us.

Class 50 has witnessed from the TAC staff and regiment leadership intense commitment and untiring determination to providing the best possible training.

Therefore, Class 50 has decided our motto will be "Strength From Honor." This is

because the class gets its strength and motivation to complete each of our assigned tasks from those who have gone before us and our leadership's honor and dedication in producing the best second lieutenants for the National Guard.

Each member of Class 50 has a commitment to meet the honorable high standards set by leadership to be a worthy product of the program and it is this commitment that drives and motivates Class 50.

* If you are interested in applying for a spot in OCS Class 51 and you have questions or would like further information, contact OC John Rossi at John.F.Rossi@us.army.mil or (860) 559-3963.

Why Diversity?

The Latino Community in Connecticut

Spc. Werner Oyanadel Hispanic – Special Emphasis Program Manager

The Latino community residing in the State of Connecticut is a positive and vibrant addition to the American culture in the State.

To understand this socio-economic phenomenon taken place in Connecticut one need only look at the past three decades to see that the overall white non-Hispanic population has decreased from 92% in the 1980's to 83% in latest decade while the Latino community has increased at a fast speed during the same period and will continue to grow because of the high fertility rate and youthfulness of this population.

This shift is a significant trend that will have implications for the growth of the state. For instance the average Latino immigrant contributes about \$25,000 to local and state governments and Latino businesses are a source of substantial economic and fiscal gain for the State. At the national level the Hispanic purchasing power, according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, surged to \$700 billion dollars and continues to grow. This population growth will allow the state to maintain the level of federal funding which would have probably declined if the state decreased its population size.

The Latino population in Connecticut is composed of Puerto Ricans (5.7%), South Americans (2.8%), Mexicans (0.7%) and Cubans (.2%). The Connecticut Latino population is spreading throughout the state but the higher percentage of Latinos

concentrate in the Hartford and Fairfield counties followed by New Haven, Windham and New London counties.

The historical richness of the Latino community is as rich and diverse as you can imagine. People from Latin America are in large part a patriarchal oriented society. Although, it is important to note that more Latina women are entering the workforce and continue to pursue higher-education degrees in non-traditional areas which eventually will diminish this notion that some people call machismo

Latinos have been termed Hispanic or Latino by the U.S. government in order to better account for the migration to the U.S. from Latin-American countries but the majority proudly prefer to be known for which country they came from rather than Latino or Hispanic.

Puerto Ricans are the largest Latino group in the state and live in urban areas such as Hartford, Bridgeport, Waterbury, and New Haven. Family values, as well as all other Latin-Americans, is very important and Spanish remains an important common thread of cultural bond between the old and young, although it is important to note that the newer generations are rapidly loosing their Spanish and or speak an interchangeable English and Spanish version of it.

A sad fact even in the 21st century is that Puerto Ricans remain the lowest income getter in the state with a median household income of \$27,245 while new comers such as Panamanian's household income averages \$72,393 a year.

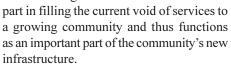
Issues of poverty, unemployment, lack of

access to health care, housing, equitable education as well as language barriers and discrimination continue to affect Puerto Ricans living in the state. However, there continues to be a civic engagement among Latinos that will help alleviate some of these socio-economic trends. For instance there are 5 Latino legislators in the Connecticut General Assembly and the Mayor of Hartford was born in Puerto Rico.

Although, Latinos have some representation on Connecticut 's board, commissions, committees and councils that administer, license and regulate state and federal funds or programs in areas related to education, economic development, environmental protection, and social services, there is hope that through the activism of several democracy organizations that these committees will reflect the ethnic and racial composition of our state.

On the other hand, there are several social institutions arising in the state such as Aspira, which seeks to develop cultural pride and self-confidence in youths and to encourage them to further their education and enter the professions, technical fields. and the arts. The Hispanic Health Council, Connecticut Hispanic Bar Association, Connecticut Society of Hispanic Professionals, Connecticut Association of Latinos in Higher Education (CALAHE), Hispanic Professional Network, Connecticut Latin-American Fire Fighters Association, Hispanic Police Association, the Spanish American Merchants Association (SAMA), Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission

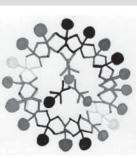
and many other sociopolitical institutions that are taking



While it is important to passively contemplate the positive and negative aspects of this community's vibrant accomplishments and needs it is critical that the general public react to the current educational gap faced by Latinos in Connecticut, which according to State Representative Felipe Reinoso from Bridgeport are a danger to the strength and vitality of our state's economy. He points out that the cumulative dropout rate for the class of 2002 was at a record high of 30.5 and that Latino high school students are reading and writing far behind the levels they should be for their grade level. Remember that this will be the in large part the working force of the state in the next few decades.

For more information on the Latino community in Connecticut please Join us during our Hispanic Heritage Celebration in October. Details for the event will available in next month's article.

If you have an interest in being part of the Hispanic Heritage Month committee please contact Sgt. 1st Class Scott J. Farrell (860) 878-6718 or E-Mail at scott.farrell@ct.ngb.army.mil



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Health & Fitness



Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) is a basic skill that can save the life of a family member or friend.

More than 70% of all sudden cardiac deaths occur in the home. A sudden cardiac (heart) arrest is one of the leading causes of death in an adult.

An adult with a history of heart problems is at especially high risk.

What is cardiac death? To understand this you must know how the heart works. The heart is nothing more than a pump, but if the pump fails death can occur.

The heart's main function is to keep blood flowing through our arteries and veins. As we breathe, oxygen is pick up by the red blood cells in the blood and transports oxygen throughout the system.

When the heart stops pumping the blood becomes stagnant and is unable to pickup and transport oxygen to our system.

When vital organs do not receive oxygenated blood they die. The most

sensitive organ that dies due to lack of blood flow is the brain. Significant brain damage will occur within 4-6 minutes if blood flow caring oxygen is not restored. The longer you wait to begin CPR the less likely the person will survive.

CPR was invented in 1960 and over the years many people have benefited from the immediate application of CPR by a person properly trained.

CPR involves learning the follow techniques:

- 1. How to assess for sudden cardiac arrest.
- 2. How to assist in breathing.
- 3. How to apply external heart compressions
- 4. How to clear an airway that is obstructed To learn CPR you can contact your local Red Cross chapter, or the American Heart Association. Both organizations conduct or sponsor CPR Training. Remember that being able to do CPR properly could save the life of someone you love.



Fit for Life: Everyone needs a range buddy

MAJ. JAMES FINN
MASTER FIRNESS TRAINER

No one in the National Guard is a "Loan Ranger". Range Buddies help us maintain our health, encourage our sanity, sociology, civility, and assist fighting off loneliness. Even if you don't have an immediate family near by, you have people supporting you.

You have assets. Whatever your interests, "your people" are in Connecticut.

Do you like to bicycle; there are Cycling Clubs. Whether you motorcycle or motorcross, BMX or Extreme Sport, there are sponsors and enthusiast near where you live.

Whether you paint canvas or paint jalopies; shoot pool, or underwater basketweave, find those with the "know how", link up, and enjoy the camaraderie.

"How do I find others with my interests?" Internet is a real speedy method but check you local papers, town offices, larger organizations that may have local chapters, or even shops who sell the implements of your endeavor.

Public Broadcasting and cable networks announce local events. Even the local Chamber of Commerce publishes community activities.

Whatever your passion, there are participants who want to encourage your success. I transferred "direct commission"

from the Air Force to the Army. After I arrived at Fort Hood, I participated in a few of the Post running events offered by Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR). Through the base activities I met civilian and DOD running, cycling, and swimming enthusiasts. Soon I was invited to join clubs, service organizations, and events (i.e: picnics, rallies, meetings) in the local community.

I learned how to bicycle competitively, swim smoother, eat better, even rest properly. The "social athletic" community, like the Army, is interested in my improvement. "Why???" When one member improves **our** whole community gains.

Connecticut National Guard members have four immediate support systems: your unit, your state, the entire Army, and the larger U.S. military family.

Even if you are not married and don't have children, you can use the resources of military installations and their recreation network.

Almost every active duty military post has an MWR, temporary longing facility, and various recreational resources.

Most bases have web sites to gather the data you need. Shades of Green (Orlando, Florida), Fort Derussey / Hali Koa Hotel (Waikiki, Hawaii), Camp Seward, (Seward, Alaska) are just a few of the resorts that provide specific discounts and cater to

military members.

Your unit members and CTARNG Family will be able to help you access resources for your specific interests. All you need is your military Identification Card (I.D).

If you who have a family, I have the following of warning. If don't you want to lose your family, don't marry your activities and divorce your "loved ones". If you are already alienated from your family, relatives, or "significant others"; you are not too late.

First, sit down and have an honest talk. Apologize for having your priorities messed up. (If you need a referee to prevent bodily harm; call a Chaplain or marriage counselor).

Second, <u>discuss</u>: what interests you have in common, what are your personal interests, and how to include each other (including your children) in your recreation.

Successful Fitness and Fun, requires planning, budgeting, preparation, and implementation.

Just like the operation plan for your unit's mission, success is an intentional process. Scripture states that, "In order to <u>have</u> friends, you must <u>be friendly.</u>"

You have at least one "Range Buddy". Me.

I'm praying for you. Sincerely, Chaplain Finn





Congress sends \$416.2 billion budget to president

AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

A 3.5 percent pay raise, elimination of outof-pocket housing expenses and continued funding for military transformation are all parts of the Defense Appropriations Act that Congress has sent to President Bush.

The act calls for \$416.2 billion in spending in fiscal 2005. Excluding supplementals and the \$25 billion Emergency Wartime Appropriation to cover the costs of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, this is still a \$25 billion increase over fiscal 2004.

Congress passed the legislation July 22. It is the first part of a duo of bills that must pass before the Defense Department can spend money.

The other leg is the fiscal 2005 National Defense Authorization Act. Officials on the Senate and House armed services committees would not hazard a guess on when that piece of legislation will pass.

DoD does not have to wait until passage of the authorization bill to begin using the \$25 billion Emergency Wartime Appropriation. This money will cover the

estimated cost of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan from October 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005. The most recent reports indicate operations costs run about \$4 billion per month.

The emergency appropriation covers personnel support costs, operations and maintenance costs and transportation costs.

The appropriations act calls for \$416.2 billion in spending in fiscal 2005.

Excluding supplementals and the \$25 billion wartime fund, this is still a \$25 billion increase over fiscal 2004.

Military personnel accounts receive almost \$104 billion. This funds an acrossthe-board 3.5 percent pay increase for military personnel.

The fiscal 2005 budget raises the basic allowance for housing, finally eliminating out-of- pocket housing expenses service members had incurred. The program started in the Clinton administration, and in a fine example of bipartisan politics was continued in the Bush administration, said DoD officials.

The Defense Health Program is also fully

funded at \$18.2 billion in fiscal 2005. It includes Bradley fighting vehicle, money to buy a \$19.2 million to improve amputee care at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Operations and maintenance accounts total just over \$121 billion in fiscal 2005. It fully funds all readiness indicators - tank miles, flying hours, steaming days – and ensures forces are trained for the global war on terrorism.

Procurement accounts are at \$77.6 billion. This funds buys of Navy and Marine Corps F/ A-18E/F fighters, Marine and Air Force V-22 Osprey aircraft, the Air Force's F/A-22 fighter, Air Force C-17 airlifters and unmanned aerial

Research and development is pegged at almost \$70 billion, including money for continued development of the Joint Strike Fighter, unmanned aerial vehicles and the Army's future combat system.

Congress is very hot on the idea of "ground forces recapitalization." This initiative provides \$1.5 billion above the president's budget request to recapitalize combat vehicles, helicopters and to procure ammunition. The money funds the fielding of an additional Army Stryker brigade, money to modernize the eight more Chinook helicopters and 12 Black Hawk choppers for the National

Congress agreed with the cancellation of the Army Comanche helicopter program and the DoD plan to redistribute funding to other programs.

The appropriation bill provides more than \$11 billion for shipbuilding, including funds for a Virginia-class submarine, an LPD-17 assault ship, threeDDG-51 destroyers and two supply ships. The budget earmarks almost \$1 billion for the next-generation CVN-21 aircraft carrier and \$457 million for development of the littoral combat ship program. These ships are a new breed of fast, agile vessels and an important part of the Navy's transformation efforts.

Missile defense programs account for \$10 billion of the fiscal 2005 budget.

About \$4.6 billion goes to ground-based missile defense program and almost \$1 billion for the Patriot-3 theater missile systems.

Twenty Third Annual SENIOR NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER FORMAL DINING-IN

DATE:

7 October 2004 (Thursday Evening)

TIME:

1830 Hours

PLACE

Aqua-Turf Club, Southington, Connecticut

COST

FORTY DOLLARS (\$40.00)

ELIGIBILITY:

Noncommissioned Officers and Chief Petty Officers, E-7 and above. All eligible ARNG and ANG NCOs are expected to attend. CPOs are invited to attend.

UNIFORM:

Army Dress Blues with Bow Tie or Army Greens with white shirt and black bow tie. Appropriate attire for other services. Retirees may wear the

uniform or a business suit as meets their desires.

HOST:

State Command Sergeant Major, Connecticut Army National Guard

CSM Raymond P. Zastaury, Jr.

GUEST SPEAKER:

APPLICATION DUE DATE: Military Protocol requires prompt response (within 72 hours of receipt of flyer).

No responses accepted after 25 September 2004

The formal military dinner ceremony known as the "Dining-In" is an old and traditional military affair believed to have its origins in medieval England. The Dining-In is now recognized as an occasion to foster ceremony, tradition, and camaraderie within an organization and to emphasize their importance in the life of a service member. It is an excellent occasion to bid farewell to service members who have departed, to welcome new ones, and to recognize the achievements of military service and individual members. Please note the guest speaker!

The cost of the affair includes a full course dinner (main entree: Roast Prime Ribs of Beef, or a fish entree upon special request) and refreshments before and during dinner. A cash bar will be available after dinner. On receipt of your application, you will receive a mailing that will include specific uniform and protocol information.

The Aqua-Turf Club is located on Mulberry Street in Southington, Connecticut. It is a short distance from Routes

Your support of the only Senior Noncommissioned Officer activity, the Dining-In, has been superb. It is requested that you continue to support this, your Dining-In, and continue the great tradition. Submit your application to attend as soon as possible after receipt of this notice. Early response enables the committee to better plan the Dining-In and make it a more enjoyable evening for all.

We look forwa	rd to seeing you there!		
DETACH AND MAIL PORTION BETWEEN DOUBLE LINES			
I will attend the	Senior NCO Dining-In on 7 October 2004.		
My check in the	amount of \$40.00 is attached.		
NAME:	RANK:		
Home address:_			
	Zip Code:		
UNIT:			
	eference for Fish in lieu of Roast Beef:		
	CKS PAYABLE TO: "2004 Senior NCO Dining-In"		
Mail returns to:	Command Sergeant Major		
	Connecticut Army National Guard National Guard Armory		
	360 Broad St.		
	Hartford, CT 06105-3795		

NCOs and CPOs make it happen!

Retirees' Voice

A watchful eye on the 2005 Defense Authorization Act

SGT. 1ST CLASS (RET.) JOHN BEDNARZ

The Fourth of July has come and gone so our Congress, House and Senate, should be conferring, or preparing to confer, on the 2005 *Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act* (Renamed to honor our recently deceased former President).

One of the items that will be addressed is the processing and complex administrative burdens required of the services concerning Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC). There are six separate government offices, with more than one hundred employees, to process the estimated 100,000 CRSC applications. They are up to one year behind in processing these applications. The solution that Congress will be recommending is that the standard of proof applied to these requests is the standard of "reasonable doubt."

Additionally they would have the DoD select the Army as the executive agent for CRSC processing, customer care, and outreach. Congress will allocate sufficient funding authority to assure a collaborative effort. With these items implemented they feel that the processing will be expedited more quickly.

Another item that does not affect us retirees but I think we should support is the introduction of Tricare for the members of the National Guard and Reserves. It would authorize drilling Guard and Reservists who have no health insurance, because they are unemployed, or because their employer

does not provide health insurance, to join Tricare with the DoD and the individual paying the premiums.

When my unit was called up for active duty during Desert Storm, one of the main problems with getting individuals certified for deployment was the health issue. I understand, in talking with people involved with deploying units today that is still a major factor. I think this would be a step in the right direction and would improve readiness.

It was a thrill for my wife and I to attend a 'Coming home' party and Change of Command Ceremony for my former unit, the 1109th AVCRAD at their hanger in Groton. We were able to see, welcome home, and chat with, all of our old comrades. Along with the change of command the Soldiers were awarded appropriate medals and decorations. An added plus was the chance to see many of the old retirees and the chance also to tell some of our own old war stories. I hope that all of the other returning units will have similar events.

There will be the upcoming Welcome Home on Sept. 11, 2004 for all of the returned units at Camp Rell in Niantic. We'll see you there.

In closing I offer just a bit of trivia. On July 12, 2004 the National Debt was \$7,265,299,676,980.06. That is 7 Trillion plus. On the same date, the population of the U. S. was 293,735,011. That is 293 million plus. That means on July 12, 2004 you and every member of your family owed \$247, 341.97. I think it's gone up since then.

Jazz, Rock, and Chorus Singers Needed

for the 102d Army Band's 2005 Summer Concert Series

Audition Video Tapes, contact info, and Commander's endorsement must be received by 30 Nov 04 at: 102d Army Band, 61 Center Street, Bristol, CT 06010-4917

Video Tapes should include the **Star Spangled Banner** and <u>one</u> other selection of the <u>singer's choice</u>.

ANY MOS (E6 and below) can apply. Three CTARNG soldiers will be attached to the 102d Army Band from April to July; including their Annual Training requirement. TY '05, dates include: 16-17 Apr., 21-22 & 30 May, 25-26 Jun, 12(night) & 15-30 Jul (AT).

For more information contact: SGT James Boski at (860) 524-4965 x17

Retirees Picnic - 2004 August 25th 1200-1700 Camp Rell, Niantic, Connecticut Prizes! Raffle! **Bring a guest!** Lots of Food. **Active Duty Welcome!** Beer & Soda! Live Music! Pass the word! Card Games! Meet old friends! Come Join the Fun! Mark your calendar! **As a special tribute, any retiree that is 80 years-old or older in 2004, attends for FREE* Detach and return to COL(Ret) Bob Kelly Cost: \$18.00/person by July 23rd 2004 Retirees Picnic \$20.00/person after July 23rd Over 80 in 2004 FREE Army Rank: Name: **Return with payment:** Address: COL (Ret) Bob Kelly City: 214 Church Street State: Wethersfield, CT 06109 Phone: (1-860-529-6851 E-mail Address: Make Check payable to: NGACT



My Address has changed from last year.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Hole in one contest on all par 3's., Trip, Taylor Made Set

Hole in one – donated by Mitchell Auto Group VW Beetle Conv– 2 Yr Lease

CONTEST

*Closest to the pin on all Par 3's, Long Drive on #1 & 13, Accurate Drive on #18

ENTRY FEE: \$100 (Dinner only \$25.00) Per Player Includes Green Fees, Cart Fees, Driving Range, Lunch & Dinner

- Applications will be accepted on 1st come 1st serve basis
- Limited to the first 144 PAID PLAYERS
- Starting holes will be assigned upon arrival

REGISTRATION	PLAYERS/HANDICAP
Foursome Contact:	Player 1:
Address:	Player 2:
Phone #:	Player 3:
E-mail:	Player 4:

Please complete form and return along with cash or checks made payable to:

The Sgt. Felix M. DelGreco Memorial Scholarship Fund Send payment to: 6 Alcima Drive, Simsbury, CT 06070

DONATIONS OF AUCTION OR RAFFLE PRIZES WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED

Coming Events August

August 22-25

EANGUS National Conference Louisville, KY

August 25

Retirees Picnic

September

September 3

NGACT Golf Tournament Keney Park

September 11

Family Day/Welcome Home Camp Rell

September 14-16

NGAUS General Conference Las Vegas, Nevada

September 22

Connecticut Day at the Big E

October

October 7

Senior NCO Dining In Aqua Turf, Southington

October 8

NGACT VIP Breakfast Reception

October 31

Halloween

November

November 2

Election Day

November 11

Veteran's Day

In future issues

9/11 Welcome Home

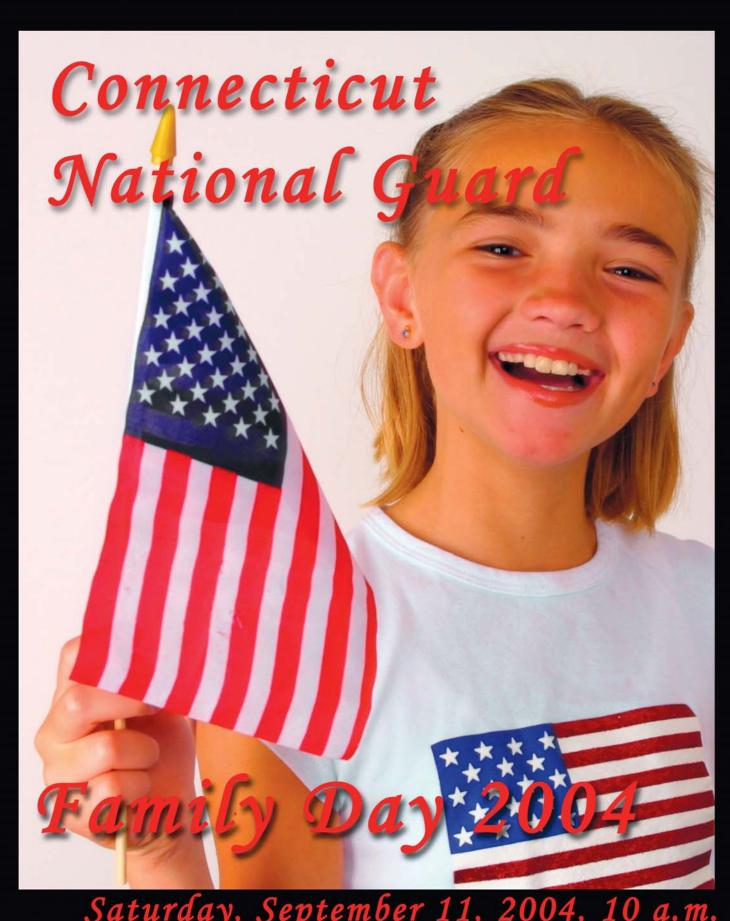
NGACT Golf Tournament

Units Return to Drilling Status

3rd Anniversary of 9/11

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month previous to publication.

PAGE 28 AUGUST 2004 **CONNECTICUT GUARDIAN**



Saturday, September 11, 2004, 10 a.m. Camp Rell, Niantic, Connecticut





















Family Deployment Supplement to the Connecticut Guardian

VOL. 5 NO. 8 HARTFORD, CT AUGUST 2004

Hometown heroes honored with day at Norwich Navigators game

Spec. Jesse Stanley 65™ PCH

The smell of hotdogs and hamburgers drifted through the air, and laughter rang out across the field, not gunfire. The lush green grass of the baseball field was a sharp contrast to the desert sands so many had come from. This was quite a change from what many of the people there had been in recently. It was Connecticut National Guard Day at Dodd Stadium in Norwich, held on July 17.

Local veterans and community leaders wanted to say thank you to the Soldiers and Airmen who have been serving their country, their efforts and donations from community businesses resulted in Hometown Heroes Day, the first community sponsored event for returning Soldiers and Airmen.

More than 2000 free tickets were given out to members of the Air and Army National Guard. Soldiers, Airmen, friends and families gathered for a lovely day at the ballpark where the troops would be able to relax and celebrate being home and being with family at a traditional family picnic. These Hometown Heroes, as they were referred to that day, were able to laugh and enjoy a day that was made just for them.

Governor M. Jodi Rell said she did one of

her favorite things in naming July 17, Hometown Heroes Day.

To kick off the game all of the Soldiers and Airmen from the stands entered the field and took an honorary lap while the crowd in the stands cheered. They received a standing ovation from the gathered crowd. They were then greeted by a gathering of military and state officials who welcomed them home and congratulated them on a job well done.

"It is nice that once we got home we were not forgotten," 1st Lt. Dawn Works said, 248th Eng. Co.

They were more than not forgotten; they were celebrated and thanked by all who attended.

"Today it's 'Thank you,'" Rell said. "Thank you for your service."

This day was as much a thank you for the families as for the service members.

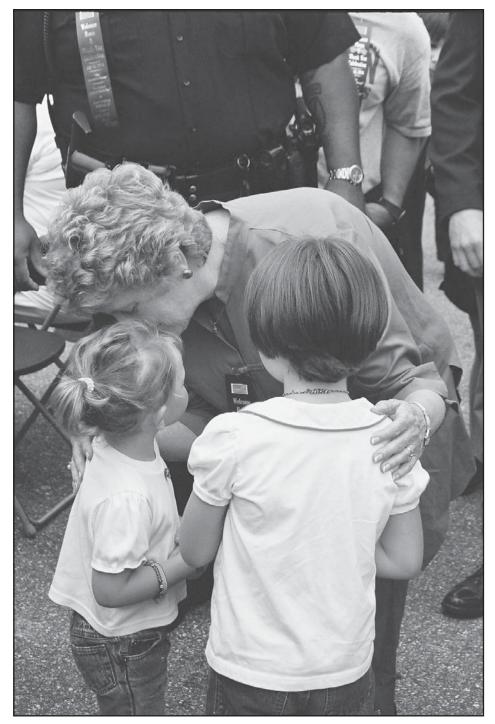
"You forget that it is the family that is really also serving our nation," Rell said. "It is the family holding down the fort and making ends meet."

"Today is about being home and being with the family," Spec. Chris Guilfoil said while he carried his son Connor on his shoulders.

Spc. Kyle Mish and Sgt. Amy Charest, 1109th AVCRAD, threw out the first pitches to begin the game.



Sgt. Amy Charest, 1109th AVCRAD, throws the first pitch. (Photo by Spc. Jesse J. Stanley, 65th PCH)



Gov. M. Jodi Rell shares a secret with one of the children who came to welcome her to the stadium. (Photo by Spc. Jesse J. Stanley, 65th PCH)

PAGES2 AUGUST 2004 CONNECTICUT GUARDIAN

New booklet helps families of deployed reservists, guardsmen

DONNA MILES
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

Separations can be tough on any child whose parent is deployed overseas, but particularly for the estimated 500,000 sons and daughters of deployed National Guardsmen and reservists, said an expert on issues involving military families.

Many Guard and Reserve families lack the tight-knit support network that helps active-duty families during deployments, said Dr. Mary Keller, executive director of the Military Child Education Coalition. This can lead to difficulty adjusting to what Dr. Keller calls their "suddenly military" status. As a result, she said, they can feel isolated and unsure of where to turn for help.

A new booklet is now available to help communities reach out to Reserve and Guard families during deployments. The coalition produced the booklet after repeated requests from military-family representatives, educators and community groups, Dr. Keller said.

The 12-page brochure, "How Communities Can Support the Children and Families of Those Serving in the National Guard and Reserves," explains the dynamics of the deployment process in easy-to-understand language. It offers tips for educators and lists military and community resources for families of deployed troops.

Dr. Keller said the brochure serves as a companion guide to another popular coalition publication, "How to Prepare Our Children and Stay Involved in Their Education During Deployment." That guide is a favorite of first lady Laura Bush, whom Dr. Keller said has read from it during visits to military bases.

Both booklets reflect the courageous spirit Dr. Keller said children of deployed troops demonstrate every day.

"Our goal is to help them through this transition in their lives and this period of separation," she said.

The publications and more information about the coalition are posted on its Web site at www.militarychild.org.

Newsletter leads to fulltime job supporting troops

K.L. Vantran American Forces Press Service

Nine years ago, while her husband was deployed, Arlyn McClaughry started an online newsletter as a way to bring service members and military families information on the Web.

She and other spouses also began mailing packages and letters to deployed troops.

Today, Operation Military Pride is a fulltime job for McClaughry and several volunteers who lend a helping hand.

The site provides information on several programs, including how to "adopt" a service member.

"Our 'Adopt a Military Member' is the most popular," she said. "It gives people a way to let the military know they support them. We also have Operation Postcard or pen pal program, which is an inexpensive way for people to support the troops. Operation Birthday Card is another favorite."

McClaughry said she has received many thanks from the troops, but the story that touches her the most was a message a mother posted on the Operation Military Pride website last September. It said:

"While on my visit with Christopher this last week he shared a moment in his life every mother dreads hearing. He told me that the end of June he was planning on ending his life and planned on doing it the next day while in Iraq.

He said he laid in his tent all night and prayed to God for strength and an opportunity to talk with his family one last time. He would have to wait almost seven days until payday to get a phone card. He said he felt so alone and very homesick.

He then told me that next day at mail call he received nine care packages from your organization from caring Americans who did not know him

Packages had phone cards and he was able to call home and talk with his father and me. He said after hearing our voices and how much we missed him he knew he could never take his own life and cause us the grief that comes along with suicide.

"I want to thank the sponsors who sent these care packages. ... Their generosity is the reason I have my son here with me today. They will never know how much I appreciate what they have done for my family."

"I knew from that point that we were really making a difference," said McClaughry, "and that even a small thing such as a calling card can really change the morale and spirits (of troops)."

She said that as long as the United States has deployed troops, Operation Military Pride will continue to send care packages.

"We just want them to know that there are people back home who love them, support them 100 percent, and pray for their safe return," she added. "And that their sacrifice is appreciated and cherished."



Putting our appreciation to the men and women in the military into action

CATHERINE GALASSO

(Editor's Note: The author of this new, monthly column is a syndicated writer and

is writing this column for The Guardian as her way of expressing the public's appreciation for all the Connecticut Guarsmen and women do. An address appears at the end of this column for comments.)

n the seventeenth century, poet Thomas Stanley wrote his definition of success, "To leave the world a bit better...by a redeemed social condition; To know that even one life has breathed easier because you have lived; This is to have succeeded."

How many millions breathe easier because evil doers are stopped?

"To know that even one life has breathed easier because you have lived; This is to have succeeded."

Encouragement is so heavily sought after by those who fight for our freedom. Did you know that true joy can be found in the simple things, the letters of love from an adult or a sweet child and above all our prayers?

God repeats the word *love* hundreds of times in His Scripture.

"Love one another, as I have loved you." John 13:34.

"Love thy neighbor as yourself." James 2:8.

"Be likeminded, have the same *love*, being of one accord, of one mind." Philippians 2:2.

"If you *love* me, keep my commandments." John 14:15.

Therefore, we must have love, God's love, because that love never fails.

I love the parable that Jesus told about the Good Samaritan.

Recently, I read this story to my young daughters. There was a man, lying hurt and wounded on the roadside. A passerby walked on the opposite side of the road, looked across toward the helpless man, but he did not cross over the other side to assist him. Another person came hurrying along, anxious to get out of the desolate area before nightfall. He passed when he reached the wounded man, and turned away without offering any aid. Then, along that lonely road came a man riding on his donkey. He stopped immediately, and ran to the man's side. "This man needs my help," the Samaritan thought, as he bound up the stranger's wounds and lifted him onto the back of his donkey. The Good Samaritan walked beside the poor man, holding him

on his donkey until they reached the inn, and cared for him all night. In the morning, when the Samaritan had to leave, he gave the landlord money and asked him to take care of the injured man. "And if this is not enough," he said, "spend more and I will repay you when I come back through this way again."

Our military men and women are our Good Samaritans. They are really doing something to help the world. They understand the powers of the universe, and know that as they do good, blessings will return a hundredfold. And they can experience peace of mind, and live in calm contentment as we thank God daily for them and ask for their protection.

This is our part, to support, comfort, and show kindness like a sheltering tree that enfolds all in its sweet shade. When they walk the road of life together, they know that there will be burdens all along the way. However, if we pray, we will put them underneath God's sheltering arms.

A week or so ago, with their tiny fingers pointing to the sky, my two daughters joyfully exclaimed, "Look Mommy, look at all the geese!"

Then they asked, "Why are they flying in a 'V'?"

I explained, "They fly in a "V" formation to help one another. As each bird flaps its wings, it creates strength for the bird closely following. The flock of birds gains greater flying strength by flying together, because each goose gets help from the previous one. And, they do not get as tired, flying collectively."

What an awesome lesson God has given to us.

Let us uphold our men and women of the military in prayer, nourishing them with encouragement, expressing our gratitude, and thanking them for each wonderful life that gives our country real victory.

That absolute true victory is found the joy, peace, and contentment of praying to God and doing all in His name to bless another

Thank you Soldiers, for defending us and blessing us.

Write to Catherine Galasso-Vigorito, nationally syndicated columnist and author of "A New You, Words to Soothe the Body, Mind and Spirit," in care of Connecticut Guardian, 360 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06105-3795 or e-mail her at anewyou@snet.net

© Catherine Galasso, 2004















Any Soldier Inc. shows support for deployed Troops

AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

A family's show of support for their deployed son has evolved into a nationwide drive that a commander deployed to Afghanistan said "epitomizes all that is good in the American people."

Recognizing that their son, Army Sgt. Brian Horn, a member of the 173rd Airborne Brigade, was living under very harsh conditions after parachuting into Iraq last March, retired Army Sgt. 1st Class Marty Horn and his wife, Sue, began sending him care packages as often as they could.

Horn requested additional packages for his fellow soldiers who weren't getting any, and soon his parents were asking their friends and neighbors in LaPlata, Md., to send packages to their son, too. Horn agreed to distribute them to soldiers who weren't getting mail.

The "overwhelming and nearly monumental" show of support "has provided the simple reminder that any one of us would proudly die for a grateful nation in our ongoing fight against terrorism," said

Horn, who has redeployed from Iraq to his u n i t headquarters in Vicenza, Italy. There, he and his fellow soldiers are preparing for another deployment after the Christmas holidays

this time to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Meanwhile, Any Soldier Inc. continues to grow. By early June, organization had more than 100 volunteer contact soldiers, and requests for packages continue to pour in from units throughout Iraq and Afghanistan.

The senior Horn attributes the effort's success to the fact that "the American public wants to do something to show support." What makes the program particularly



get to feel very attached."

Any Soldier Inc.'s Web site lists supplies that deployed troops need, such as prepackaged food, T-shirts and even Beanie Babies that they can give to local children. The site provides specific information about how and where to send packages.

many,

said, is that it

gives people

opportunity

to develop

one-on-one

contacts with

deployed

troops.

"There's no

middle man,"

Horn said,

'so people

he

According to Lt. Col. Rick Mullen, commanding officer of a Marine Corps aviation unit in Afghanistan, these gifts

appealing to have a "deeply humbling effect on the individual Marines in our squadron."

> Mullen said the packages demonstrate that the American public shares in "the price our Marines are paying for freedom" and makes the load deployed troops carry feel "a bit

> Horn expressed thanks on the Any Soldier Web site for the "awe- inspiring and frankly quite dramatic display of support from the home front."

> He said the correspondence and care packages have poured in "at an overwhelming and nearly monumental pace."

> The campaign, he wrote, "has seen tears from some, given hope to most and has been inspirational to us all."

> The sergeant's father said there's a lot of personal gratification in watching the program grow, "knowing that I'm making a difference — and allowing a lot of other people to make a difference, too."

> More information about Any Soldier Inc. is posted on the organization's Web site.

Connecticut's National Guard & Militia Units

Present



Join us for a Welcome Home Celebration for all soldiers and airmen who were deployed around the world this past year

Saturday, September 11, 2004 Camp Rell, Niantic, Connecticut

Military Spouse Resource Center

A useful link for those spouses that want to upgrade knowledge, skills and abilities and those who may want to enter the workforce as a result of spouse deployment is located at http://www.milspouse.org/ Below is an excerpt from the website:

Welcome to the Military Spouse Resource Center The Military Spouse Resource Center (MilSpouse.org) is a U.S. Department of Labor sponsored web site designed to assist the spouses of U.S. total force military personnel.

Our mission is to provide easy access to information, resources, and opportunities related to education, training, and employment within the United States.

MilSpouse.org will be extending services to military spouses directly through this site and through partnerships with other organizations and the U.S. Department of Labor's local One-Stop Career Centers.

"The [Department of Labor] is dedicated to helping the spouses of active duty military personnel. We want to open up our training programs and placement services to these worthy partners in our military preparedness.

Sometimes the availability of training and a good job for a spouse is the difference between a service member staying or leaving the military."

Family Assistance Center locations

Family Assistance Centers are set-up in the following armories around the state:

Bristol Armory 61 Center Street, Bristol, CT 06010 (860) 582-1206 Toll Free 866-347-2283 Sgt. Michael Bertoli

Waterbury Armory 64 Field Street, Waterbury, CT 06702 (203) 574-2406 Toll Free 866-347-2291 Sgt. Jonathon Duffy & Spec. Tamara Jex

Manchester Armory & AVCRAD 330 Main Street, Manchester, CT 06040 (860) 646-0780 Toll Free 866-347-2286 Capt. Lauri Tinelle

> 103rd FW, Bradley ANG Base Bldg 8, East Granby, CT 06026 (860) 292-2730 Mrs. Donna Rivera

Hartford Armory
360 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06105-3795
1-800-858-2677
Mrs. Kim Hoffman, Mrs. Michelle McCarty, Mrs. Karen Somes, OC Claude Hibbert
and Sgt. Jessica McKenna

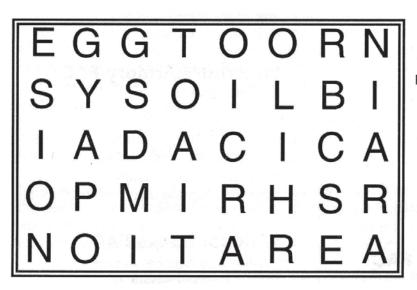
Norwich Armory 38 Stott Avenue, Norwich, CT 06360 (860) 823-1342 Ext. 12 Toll Free 866-347-3357 Mrs. Andrea Lathrop

103rd Air Control Squadron 206 Boston Post Road, Orange, CT 06477 (203) 795-2983 Charlie and Jane Solomon

118th Medical Company Location to be announced Sgt. Elizabeth Crouthamel (860) 883-6935

Volunteers are needed in each facility.
Those wishing to help out can contact Mrs. Kim Hoffman, Family Program Manager at 1-800-858-2677.

Any family member or loved one of a deployed soldier who has questions about benefits or deployment issues may also get answers to their question at the following email address: kim.hoffman@ct.ngb.army.mil



FIND THE WORDS ABOUT CICADAS

Right, Left, Up, Down or Diagonal

ROOT SOIL RAIN AREATION EGG CICADA SHRIMP NOISE AREA



A MONTHLY FEATURE OF FUN AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES